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British Virgin Islands 1975

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BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Report for the year
1975

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HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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PART I

General Review 1975

IN early December, His Excellency the Governor Mr. Walter Wilkinson Wallace, C.B.E., D.S.C. left the territory on six weeks' mid-tour leave during which Mr. A. E. Penn, O.B.E., Chief Secretary, acted as Governor.

THE ECONOMY

Government's basic economic policy for the territory continues to be the orderly development and expansion of tourism; the promotion of the area as a tax relief centre and the resuscitation of agriculture and the fishing industry.

In 1975 the B.V.I. economy came under considerable pressure as a result of the world wide inflation and the economic recession in the U.S.A.—the territory being heavily dependent on imports and on the U.S. for its tourism. Nevertheless, indicators show that the territory was able to record some progress in the main sectors of the economy. For example, tourist arrivals for the year were up by 11 % over 1974 with charter boat tourists showing a 22 % increase. For the first half of the year expenditure by hotel and charter boat tourists was some \$6.6 million—16 % higher than the same period in 1974, and an employment survey in June showed that the level of employment compared favourably with that for 1974. The rate of inflation within the territory, as measured by the Consumer Prices Index, showed an annual rate of 6 % as compared with 25 % recorded elsewhere.

Financially, Government was able to realise its revenue estimate of \$5.3 million despite shortfalls of approximately \$.25 and \$.08 million from Customs and Excise and Electricity which was made up by royalties amounting to \$.45 million on sales of gold coins not included in the original estimates. Government's expenditure has also roughly maintained the estimated level of about \$6 million. Of this sum approximately \$100,000 was paid to the Civil Service as a cost of living allowance effective 1st September to help meet the rise in the cost of living since the last salaries revision in July 1973. In the final analysis the territory was in fact able to reduce significantly the estimated level of grant-in-aid.

During the year under review major private development projects completed included new marina facilities at Baughers Bay, Tortola by Caribbean Sailing Yachts and Phase I of Village Cay Marina along with an office building complex on Wickhams Cay I. Construction continued on the Prospect Reef Hotel, a hotel/marina complex of 105 units which will be capable of accommodating 320 guests on completion.

In the public sector some \$1.4 million from Development Aid sources, was spent in completing work on major projects including the Airport Terminal Building; resurfacing the Road Town/Cane Garden Bay road and realignment of part of the Blackburne Road; a health clinic on Anegada; to commence work on the upgrading and improvement to the Ridge Road and a new Primary School in Road Town. Walcon Ltd. also commenced work in building main drains and surface water sewer together with a sewerage treatment plant and lines to serve Wickhams Cay I and adjacent Road Town as part of the first phase of development of Wickhams Cay scheduled for completion by June next year.

Negotiations are continuing with Her Majesty's Government with a view to reaching agreement on a new Double Taxation Relief Agreement with the United Kingdom as well as approval for the introduction of legislation to provide for exemption from Income Tax of certain Companies, Partnerships and Trusts who may elect to be registered as "Exempt Bodies" under the proposed Ordinance.

There were a number of officially sponsored visitors during the year. Among these were Mr. G. H. Franklyn, O.D.M. Physical Planning Adviser from 22nd-27th January; Mr. J. Williams, Agricultural Engineer, 3rd March; Mr. P. C. Duff, West Indian and Atlantic Department, F.C.O., 27th February-3rd March; Mr. John Grant, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, O.D.M. along with Sir Bruce Greatbatch, K.C.V.O., C.M.G., M.B.E., Head of the British Development Division, 28th-30th May; Mr. Lawrence Jones, Telecommunications Adviser, 7th-13th December.

A survey team including the following experts from the British Development Division, Barbados also visited from 1st-5th December to carry out an economic survey:

Sir Bruce Greatbatch, K.C.V.O., C.M.G., M.B.E., Head of the British Development Division

Mr. S. C. Wood, Education Adviser

Mr. A. W. Jackson, Financial Adviser

Mr. M. B. Thomson, Economist

Mr. E. T. Wilmot, Agricultural Adviser

Mr. D. G. Pagan, Engineering Adviser

The main purpose of most of the visits mentioned above was to hold discussions with Heads of Departments on matters affecting the development of the Territory and to undertake a survey in consultation with Government in order to reassess the future direction of the development aid programme to the territory.

In addition, the territory welcomed the following naval visits:

H.M.S. Fearless 14th–16th February, 1975

U.S.S. Saginaw 20th–24th March, 1975

H.M.S. Minerva 12th–16th June, 1975

French Patrol Ship Archturus 26th–29th August, Road Town;
29th August–1st September, Virgin Gorda

U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Whitehorn 1st–2nd December, Road Town; 2nd–3rd December, Virgin Gorda

H.M.S. Minerva also participated in the Queen's official birthday celebrations on 14th June, 1975.

POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL

The Territory operates under a Ministerial system of Government which was introduced in 1967. The Governor is responsible for defence and internal security, external affairs, the Civil Service, the Administration of the Courts and Finance, and has reserved legislative powers necessary in the exercise of his special responsibilities. On other matters he is normally bound to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council. The Council comprises the Governor as Chairman, two ex-officio members (the Attorney General and the Financial Secretary), the Chief Minister, appointed by the Governor as the elected member who appears best able to command a majority in the Legislative Council, and two other Ministers appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister. The Legislative Council consists of a Speaker chosen from outside the Council, two ex-officio members the (Attorney General and the Financial Secretary), one nominated member appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Minister, and seven elected members returned from one-member electoral districts. The division of seats between the political parties at the 1975 elections was—The Virgin Islands Party, three seats; and the B.V.I. United Party, two seats; two independent candidates were also elected. The Hon. W. Wheatley, M.B.E. was reappointed Chief Minister with Hons. H. L. Stoutt and A. U. Anthony, Minister Natural Resources and Public Health and Minister Communications, Works and Industry respectively.

On 29th May, 1975 Government tabled a White Paper in the Legislative Council setting out certain proposals for Constitutional advance arising from consultation with Her Majesty's Government on the Constitutional Commissioner's Report. These proposals included inter alia:

- (a) responsibility for Finance to be assumed by a Minister. As a consequence, the Financial Secretary will cease to be a member of the Executive Council and the Legislative Council;
- (b) in the exercise of his remaining reserve powers the Governor will be required to consult with the Chief Minister;
- (c) in the exercise of the power of pardon etc., the Governor will consult with a new Mercy Advisory Committee consisting of the Attorney General, the Chief Medical Officer and four other members;
- (d) the title of the post of Chief Secretary will be changed to that of Deputy Governor;
- (e) the Chief Minister will be appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the elected members of the majority party in the Legislative Council. If there is no majority party, the Governor will appoint the member who in his judgement is best able to command a majority;
- (f) the voting age to be reduced to 18 years;
- (g) the elected membership of the Legislative Council to be increased from 7 to 9 and the present provision for a nominated member removed.

The White Paper was debated in the Legislative Council on 3rd July, 1975 (the date of the dissolution of the Seventh Legislative Council) but there was insufficient time to reach any firm decisions on any of these proposals.

RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

The relationship between the British and United States Virgin Islands continued to be cordial. There were several meetings between officials of both groups to discuss solutions to their common problems relative to law enforcement as it affects the work of the Police, Customs, Immigration as well continued co-operation in areas such as Social Welfare and Community Development, Education and Agriculture.

The Fourth Annual B.V.I./U.S.V.I. Friendship Day was celebrated

in St. Thomas on 25th October with the Governor, Legislators and other civic groups hosting their B.V.I. counterparts.

A reception was held at the V.I. Game Fishing Club in St. Thomas where words of welcome were extended to the visitors from the B.V.I., after which the various groups dispersed to continue the celebration.

A luncheon for the Governors, Legislators and other dignitaries and their wives was held at Lime Tree Bay Hotel during which there was a formal welcome address by His Excellency the Governor of the U.S.V.I. In his address the Governor remarked about the immutable bonds of friendship and affection which held the two groups together over the years and expressed the hope for greater co-operation which he felt was not too far-fetched to anticipate may ultimately lead to unity of both groups of islands under one flag.

In reply, the Governor of the British Virgin Islands expressed the thanks of the British Virgin Islands' group for the warm welcome and excellent hospitality of their U.S.V.I. neighbours. He said that the two groups of islands could set an example to the rest of the world in the way in which they got together to solve their common problems. In particular, he mentioned the relationship between the police authorities in both groups of islands and promised that the B.V.I. would endeavour to assist in preventing illegal entry of immigrants to the U.S.V.I. Finally he said that he was sure that the difficulties which existed between them from time to time would be overcome in the future as long as both groups of islands continued to co-operate in the true spirit of friendship.

The President of the U.S.V.I. Legislature, Senator E. Roebuck, then presented the Hon. the Chief Minister, B.V.I. a copy of a resolution which was passed in the U.S.V.I. Legislature on the 23rd October in recognition of the integral relationship between the two groups and to pledge on behalf of the Government of the U.S.V.I. to continue an everlasting bond of friendship, peace and co-operation with the B.V.I.; further, to maintain a continuing awareness of this unique relationship and to increase efforts to strengthen it.

The Hon. the Chief Minister in his reply stated, among other things, that he was encouraged by the strong feeling of brotherhood which continued to be displayed and expressed the hope that the day would help to strengthen the resolve to move forward to closer ties between the two groups of islands whose destinies are closely intertwined. In conclusion the Hon. Chief Minister went on to state that it was with great interest therefore that he looked forward into the future, not asking whether or not this friendship would continue but with the hope that as a people we would be able to free the

potential energies created by our common devotion, to perform the task that lies ahead.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

Like most of the West Indian islands, the B.V.I.'s social and cultural life shows an indigenous culture which has been heavily influenced by the African heritage, and which has been exposed to the Western culture.

Steelband and calypso, the music of the West Indies, is strongly ingrained in the life of the people. Western popular music is also greatly appreciated. There are several night clubs, and dances on weekends are a favourite pastime. The August Festival, which commemorates the abolition of slavery, is a traditional feature of indigenous artistry each year. A festival of dance, song and parades is also held at Easter. This festival is not held to observe any religious significant event.

Interest in Theatre is growing, and within the last year two drama groups have been formed; both are active. Government has sponsored short local courses to offer training in this field.

Religion plays a vital part in the life of the people, and there are several active denominations of the Christian faith.

The indigenous people of the islands are of African extraction. There is a growing number of European and American immigrants. The pattern of emigration to the United States Virgin Islands and the continental United States which existed in previous years continues, so in spite of the growing numbers of immigrants the Territory's population growth remains rather constant at about 2% each year.

There are several civic and service organisations in the Territory. These include the Boy Scouts, the Red Cross Society, the Lions Club, the Boys and Girls Brigades, the Household of Ruth, the Odd Fellows, the Rotary Club and the Excelsior Club.

There is a great deal of interest in softball, cricket, football, netball as well as aquatic sports of which there are regular annual tournaments. In March the Soft Ball Association participated in the Central American Soft Ball Tournament in Panama City and in June obtained membership of the World Soft Ball Federation. Also, in August the local Amateur Athletic Association competed in the Central American and Caribbean Championship track and field events in Puerto Rico. Horse racing, traditionally a feature of the August Festival, along with indoor sports such as chess, table tennis and judo are gaining in popularity. Recreation is promoted by the Recreation Trust, a statutory body which was established in 1966, assisted by a trained Sports Officer.

The Community Development Office continued its services to welfare cases and its financial assistance to approved youth organisations, particularly those concerned with the organisation of sports and community development. It also continued to promote self-help projects through community associations.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE

At the end of 1975 there were 347 employees on the establishment. This figure does not include Primary School Teachers and Members of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force. 214 persons were employed on the permanent and pensionable establishment, 70 were serving on contract terms. The contract staff included 24 local persons and 46 expatriates. Of a total of 18 senior posts 10 were filled by local officers. Valuable assistance has been received from expatriate officers in such fields as Town Planning; Financial Control; Customs and Excise; Accounting and Audit; Statistics and Public Works; besides Cadastral Survey and Land Registration, for which Government is most grateful.

Based on a review of salaries and other working conditions in the Public Service by Mr. Harold Waller, O.B.E., the Civil Service received modest increases in salaries retroactive to July 1973 in order to reduce some of the hardships experienced by the rapid increase in the cost of living. The report also recommended a staff inspection exercise to establish the need for the present size, complement and gradings of the service, but some delay has been encountered in finding a suitable appointee who could undertake the exercise.

In September Government was able to implement a proposal by the Waller report for a cost of living allowance to be instituted that will help to offset the rapid rise in the cost of living since the last review.

A training programme is in operation and advantage is being taken of training opportunities available in the Caribbean and the United Kingdom.

In 1975 two scholarships for diploma courses in the fields of Public Administration and Social Work at U.W.I., Mona Jamaica were awarded to Civil Servants under the West Indies Scholarships Scheme.

The British Virgin Islands assisted by grants under the West Indies Scholarships Training Scheme continued to maintain some 20 students (including the two mentioned above) pursuing courses in Arts, Science, Medicine, Law and Engineering at the University of the West Indies.

The Civil Service Association continued its activities and its

regular meetings provided a useful forum for public debates on the problems of the Service. Several useful proposals have been put forward by the Association aimed at securing better working conditions and improving the overall effectiveness of the Service.

HONOURS

New Year's awards conferred by Her Majesty the Queen included the following:

To be an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division): Hon. Ralph Telford O'Neal, former Civil Servant and currently Member for the Seventh Electoral District.

Colonial Police Medal for meritorious service to Mr. Brian Ernest Graves, former Chief of Police, British Virgin Islands.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

THE last census in 1970 resulted in a total corrected population figure of 10,030, an increase of nearly 40% over the figure recorded in the 1960 census. Movement to and from the British Virgin Islands has been considerable in recent years and, in large part, the population increase was the result of substantial immigration following the territory's rapid but short-lived economic expansion in the later 1960's. The distribution of the population in 1970 was as follows:

Tortola	8,666
Virgin Gorda	904
Anegada	269
Jost Van Dyke	123
Other Islands	68
	<hr/>
	10,030
	<hr/>

Road Town, the capital, is situated on Tortola and has a population of just under 3,500. The East End/Long Look area of Tortola has a population of just under 2,000. Except for a small number of persons of European, American and Asian origin (averaging about 15% of population) the population is of African extraction.

Chapter 2: Immigration and Emigration

IMMIGRATION

FOLLOWING the General Elections 1975 Immigration passed under the ministerial control of the Minister of Natural Resources & Public Health, the Hon. H. L. Stoutt.

There continues to be a Board of Immigration to advise the Minister on all questions concerning entry into and control of

persons in the Virgin Islands for the purposes of visiting, employment or to take up residence. During 1975, on the recommendation of the Board, 41 persons were granted Belonger Status and 78 Certificates of Residence. This shows a considerable increase over 1974 figures due to the fact that there were a number of applications that were held in abeyance pending a review of the policy on granting of such status.

Government, conscious of the ill-effects of uncontrolled immigration and having regard to the impact on the local economy of the prevailing economic situation worldwide, undertook to review its policy on the granting of Belonger Status and Certificates of Residence. The following criteria have been accepted and are to be introduced early next year. An applicant for the Belonger Status must:

- (a) have been ordinarily resident for a period of at least 12 years;
- (b) must satisfy the Board that he or she genuinely intends to make the B.V.I. his or her home; and
- (c) that persons granted Belonger Status should be limited to 20 per annum, including dependants.

Similarly, persons applying for a certificate of residence must also satisfy the conditions hereunder:

- (a) the applicant must be one who would be likely to make a worthwhile contribution to the good of the territory;
- (b) is unlikely to become a public liability; and
- (c) is in a position to take care of himself and his dependants.

Statistics

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS—PORT STATISTICS—1975

Port of Entry	Arrivals			Departures		
	Air	Sea	Total	Air	Sea	Total
Beef Island . .	26,196	—	26,196	24,687	—	24,687
West End . .	2,233	51,757	53,990	2,245	49,249	51,494
Virgin Gorda . .	11,411	4,056	15,467	11,299	3,926	15,225
Road Town . .	7,744	7,859	15,603	9,042	7,954	16,996
Jost Van Dyke . .	—	3,419	3,419	—	3,461	3,461
TOTAL . .	47,584	67,091	114,675	47,273	64,590	111,863

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS—PASSENGER STATISTICS—1975

Types of Passengers	Arrivals			Departures		
	Air	Sea	Total	Air	Sea	Total
Residents . .	8,595	27,973	36,568	10,000	30,452	40,452
Migrants . .	336	13	349	270	461	731
Tourists . .	31,737	33,031	64,768	29,951	28,677	58,628
Business Visitors .	2,711	765	3,476	2,385	603	2,988
Other Visitors .	875	1,466	2,341	869	873	1,742
Transit Workers .	1,513	1,080	2,593	1,492	1,028	2,520
Other Transits .	1,064	742	1,806	1,109	685	1,794
Visitors making temporary visits abroad . .	753	2,021	2,774	1,197	1,811	3,008
TOTAL . .	47,584	67,091	114,675	47,273	64,590	111,863

In 1975 passenger arrivals were up by 6·6% over the 1974 figure with air arrivals continuing to show a greater overall increase than sea. The former, at 47,584, increased by 10·4% over 1974 whilst sea arrivals showed a modest increase of just over 4%.

Deportation

Five persons were deported from the British Virgin Islands during 1975.

EMIGRATION

On 7th October, the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service modified its immigration regulations making it mandatory for all non-immigrant aliens to be in possession of valid non-immigrant visas when seeking admission to Puerto Rico. Visitors to the U.S.V.I. are also required to have valid non-immigrant visas or proof of valid work certificates granted by the Department of Labour for employment in the U.S.V.I. or that they are spouses and/or children of such aliens. However, on representation to the Immigration and Naturalisation Service and the Bureau of Security and Cultural Affairs in Washington, it was possible to secure exemption for British Virgin Islanders from the visa requirement for entry to the U.S.V.I. on proof of residence in the B.V.I. British Virgin Islanders are, nevertheless, required to hold valid non-immigrant visas to visit Puerto Rico.

Chapter 3: Occupation, Wages and Labour Organisation

THE labour force (estimated) was 3,270 with one-third being expatriates. Despite efforts by Government and the private sector to train locals, it is still necessary to import a certain percentage of immigrant labour to whom the granting of permits is determined on the following basis:

- (1) Visitors are not permitted to work and permits will only be granted if a British Virgin Islander is unavailable for the job;
- (2) Persons entering the British Virgin Islands to take up employment must have a letter of approval procured by their prospective employer from the Labour Department;
- (3) Must be in possession of a clean police record;
- (4) A good health certificate; and
- (5) Must either post a deposit equivalent to a single passage to the home country or have the employer undertake to guarantee repatriation.

A new Labour Code which became effective in June 1975 seeks to bring together in so far as is practicable all legislation applicable to employment and employment standards in the Virgin Islands. It provides, among other things, conditions governing the commencement and termination of employment; leave privileges; remuneration and hours of work; severance pay, unfair dismissals; health, safety and welfare; certain restrictions on the employment of young persons and children; and for the issuance of Work Permits.

Following the enactment of the Labour Code, a committee was set up to look into the matter of wages and to recommend to the Minister basic minimum wages for the Territory. The minimum wages currently being paid by Government are: unskilled \$12.00; semi-skilled \$13.00-\$16.00; skilled \$18.00-\$20.00; with private industry paying higher rates. The estimated average earning during the year was about \$4,000.

The Government remains the largest employer followed by the Tourist and Construction sectors.

There are two registered Trade Unions, both of which have been inactive for the past two years.

During the year only two industrial incidents were reported, both of which were dealt with in accordance with the Workman's Compensation Ordinance.

Chapter 4: Public Finance and Taxation

PUBLIC FINANCE

General

1975 was another difficult year for public finance. Although the falling rate of inflation assisted in keeping expenditure in check, cautious domestic demand affected the revenue position throughout the year. By the end of 1975, however, the gold coin issue and last minute improvements in direct and indirect tax receipts combined to reduce the overall budget deficit to \$455,123. Improved expenditure control led to a slight decrease in recurrent expenditure over the previous year, and contributed to reducing the final deficit to significantly less than the estimated \$586,000. Summary figures for the past five years are as follows in (\$000):

	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Deficit</i>	<i>Grant-in-Aid</i>
1971 . .	3,047	4,024	977	1,113
1972 . .	3,576	4,641	1,065	1,175
1973 . .	4,605	4,968	363	956
1974 . .	5,017	5,999	982	725
1975 . .	5,522	5,960	438	683

Recurrent Revenue

Revenue collections by heads in 1974 and 1975 are set out below:

<i>Revenue</i>	<i>1974</i>	<i>1975</i>
	\$	\$
Customs and Excise	1,437,622	1,429,886
Ports and Harbours	154,626	165,321
Taxes and Licences	1,317,606	1,295,848
Fines and Forfeitures	22,487	17,824
Government Departments and Services	329,021	314,801
Post Office	226,896	314,455
Rent of Government Property	82,886	92,239
Miscellaneous Services	232,652	493,458
Electricity	1,212,733	1,380,848
TOTAL	5,016,529	5,504,680

Revenue from Customs and Excise suffered from the dampening effects of the world recession in domestic demand and from much importation of duty free goods for investment. Taxes and Licences also showed a slight decrease over 1974. It was the gold coin issue, which netted some \$450,000, which saved the overall position.

Recurrent Expenditure

Expenditure by heads in 1974 and 1975 is set out below:

<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>1974</i>	<i>1975</i>
	\$	\$
Governor	75,380	58,675
Administration	265,011	279,244
Audit	10,853	10,621
Finance	492,396	571,638
Judicial	73,327	57,823
Legal	43,124	45,470
Pensions and Gratuities	247,832	187,616
Police and Prisons	355,265	346,881
Public Debt	778,819	686,461
Chief Minister's Office	178,386	203,578
Education	937,685	948,535
Legislature	37,465	38,852
Ministry of Natural Resources and Public Health	55,353	54,448
Agriculture	78,151	84,059
Public Health	555,631	590,813
Survey	79,287	72,918
Ministry of Communications Works and Industry	109,563	111,459
Public Works	780,454	720,368
Electricity	845,438	890,341
TOTAL	5,999,420	5,959,800

Considerable restraint was shown throughout the year by all Government departments but it was the reductions under Pensions and Gratuities, Public Debt and Public Works which led to the overall drop.

The introduction of a cost of living allowance in September caused the substantial increase under Finance. Education, Public Health and the Chief Minister's Office were other heads which showed increased expenditure over 1974.

Capital Expenditure

There was a very large increase in capital works in 1975. Over \$1,400,000 was spent, largely from U.K. Development Aid, on such projects as the concreting of Joe's Hill Road, the grading of part of the Ridge Road, Beef Island Terminal Building, the start of the new Road Town Primary School and drainage works on Wickhams Cay.

TAXATION

Taxes on income are chargeable at the rate of 5% on total income (employment tax), and an additional 12% (income tax) after deduc-

tion of generous allowances. As regards income from abroad, double taxation relief treaties have been in effect for some time between the territory and Canada, U.S.A., Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. A similar treaty with the U.K. lapsed in 1972 and its renewal is under consideration. Arrangements exist for the grant of double taxation relief in respect of income arising in other Commonwealth Countries which offer reciprocal relief. Other revenue is collected in the form of Land and House Taxes, Hotel Accommodation Taxes and Stamp Duties under the Land and House Tax Ordinance as amended, the Hotel Accommodation (Taxation) Ordinance and the Stamp Act respectively; revenue is derived also from trade, liquor, boat and animal licences.

Chapter 5: Currency and Banking

THE British Virgin Islands use the United States dollar as legal tender. The territory itself has no exchange control restrictions and dollars may be freely transferred in and out. In 1973 the Territory issued its own coinage with full legal tender status: the value and denominations were the same as the United States coins. Although some of the B.V.I. coins were put into circulation, the issue was primarily aimed at the numismatist and considerable sales were effected of packaged specimen and mint sets. Further issues were made in 1974/75 and a gold coin of \$100 was introduced in 1975.

The Banking Ordinance 1972 regulates the activities of banking and other financial institutions within the Territory and, in the case of B.V.I. banking corporations, outside the Territory as well. There were five commercial banks operating in the Territory in 1975: The Virgin Islands National Bank (established May, 1961); Barclays Bank International (established 1965); The Bank of Nova Scotia (established 1969); The Chase Manhattan Bank (established 1968); and the Commercial Bank of Tortola (established 1972).

Chapter 6: Commerce

DIRECT shipping services from the U.K. and the U.S. continued. Imports from the U.K. and other Commonwealth Countries were moderate. The bulk of the trade including importations of building materials and foodstuffs took place between the United States, Puerto Rico and United States Virgin Islands.

Goods to the value of U.S. \$11.61 million were imported in 1974. This was some 12% higher than in 1973. However, the comparison is not strictly valid since insurance and freight costs were included in the valuation in the last eight months of 1974.

Final import figures for 1975 were unavailable at the time of writing. However, preliminary indications show that at least during the first half of 1975, the volume of trade was maintained.

Chapter 7: Production

Industrial and General

OVER the past year continuing interest was shown in the field of light industries and several new trade licences were issued as well as renewals covering mostly haberdashery, places of entertainment or amusement centres, and other small businesses in the clothing and food industries. The manufacture of glass fibre products, viz. dinghies, small sail boats and numerous household and marine articles for local sale and export, also commenced on a small scale.

The hotel industry has continued to expand at an acceptable rate. During the year seven licences were issued under the Hotels Aid Ordinance in respect of extensions to hotels already receiving aid.

Tourism

Tourism remains, and for the foreseeable future will continue, to be the dominant industry in the Territory. The statistics continue to show steady growth as evidenced by the following tourist figures for the years 1967-1975:

1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
17,500	22,800	29,500	33,200	37,200	43,300	49,200	58,500	64,768

Passenger and Tourist Statistics, 1975

A total of 64,768 tourists arrived in the British Virgin Islands during the year 1975—an increase of 11% over 1974. All categories of tourist arrivals showed increases but B.V.I. charter boat tourists again led the way with a 22% increase. Boat charterers, at 16,457, now outnumber hotel tourists, at 15,350, although the latter did better than in 1974 with an increase of 5%. The average length of stay showed a small fall from 7.8 to 7.5 nights.

Opposite is a brief summary of statistical analysis of 1975 Tourism compared with figures for 1973 and 1974:

		1975	1974	1973
1	(a) Passenger arrivals	114,675	107,541	105,355
	(b) By sea	67,091	64,439	68,786
	(c) By air	47,584	43,102	36,569
2	(a) Tourist arrivals	64,768	58,486	57,839
	(b) By sea	33,031	29,292	32,844
	(c) By air	31,737	29,194	24,995
3	Cruise ship passengers	863	664	2,004
4	Tourists entering in own or foreign chartered boats	13,358	12,249	14,343
5	Day tourists	11,299	10,713	10,738
6	(a) Overnight tourists	39,248	34,860	30,754
	(b) At hotels	15,350	14,656	15,247
	(c) On charter boats	16,457	13,453	9,873
	(d) In rented accommodation	468	326	271
	(e) In own accommodation/with friends	6,973	6,425	5,363
7	(a) Average length of stay (nights)	7.5	7.8	7.4
	(b) At hotels	6.4	6.9	6.6
	(c) On charter boats	8.5	8.6	8.6
	(d) In rented accommodation	8.2	8.9	9.2
	(e) In own accommodation/with friends	7.9	6.7	7.8
8	(a) Tourists from U.S.A. (%)	66	66	67
	(b) Tourists from U.S.A. and Territories (combined) (%)	89	88	87

Visitors are predominantly of American nationality and account for 67% of the total, with the remainder coming from Canada, U.K., Europe and the Eastern Caribbean countries.

Because of limited finances and the minimal returns received, the Tourist Board at the end of 1974 decided not to continue membership in the Eastern Caribbean Tourist Association (E.C.T.A.), a decision that was supported by Government. Contracts were signed with public relations firms in New York, Canada and with the West India Committee in London. Membership was maintained in the Caribbean Hotel Association and renewed in the American Society of Travel Agents (A.S.T.A.). Several travel writers visited the Territory resulting in greater publicity for the islands in New York and Canada. The WELCOME magazine continued to be the main promotional tool of the Board.

The restaurant and 14 rooms of Prospect Reef were opened to business during the latter half of the year. When completed, this will add another 322 beds to those available in the Territory. The bare-

boat fleet continues to expand and new and improved facilities at Baughers Bay, Tortola by Caribbean Sailing Yachts along with Phase I of the Village Cay Marina, Wickhams Cay I, became operational.

Agriculture and Fisheries

The Department of Agriculture was managed by a young agriculturalist who in early 1973 returned from a year's attachment with the Ministry of National Development and Agriculture in Guyana following the completion of a B.Sc. Course in agriculture at the St. Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies. He was assisted by one Agricultural Officer, four Agricultural Assistants and one Executive Officer. Mr. D. N. Smith, Livestock Adviser, was recruited in May, 1975 under the United Kingdom Technical Assistance programme for a period of two years to advise the Government on livestock development during which it is hoped to train a local counterpart.

General Activities of the Department

The activities of the Department throughout 1975 were channelled along the following lines:

- (i) the providing of technical agricultural advice to farmers;
- (ii) the production of vegetable seedlings, fruit trees and ornamentals for sale;
- (iii) the production of breeding stock (Red Poll cattle, Barbados Black Belly and Tortola White sheep) for sale to farmers;
- (iv) the prevention and control of pests and diseases of livestock and crops;
- (v) the protection of forested areas and the conservation of soil and water;
- (vi) the encouragement and promotion of fishing and farming;
- (vii) the control of importation and exportation of pets, plants and commercial livestock;
- (viii) the improvement and extension of pastures;
- (ix) the implementation of the Territory's Agricultural Development Plan.

Agricultural Nurseries

During 1975 the department maintained a small nursery in Road Town mainly for testing the suitability of various vegetable types to British Virgin Islands climatic conditions and for the production and sale of seedlings, budded and grafted fruit trees, and ornamental

cuttings to farmers and home gardeners. Another two-acre nursery at Paraquita Bay was maintained mainly for the production of budwood from various types of citrus, mangoes and avocados, and for the production of planting material for pasture establishment (pangola and elephant grass).

Various types of planting material were distributed from nurseries during 1975. Of the short term vegetables, tomatoes, cabbages, sweet peppers, kohlrabi and eggplant were in greatest demand. The types found most suitable to our conditions are (Manalucie and Butgers) tomatoes, California Wonder sweet peppers, Early White Vienna kohlrabi, Copenhagen Market cabbages and Black Beauty eggplant.

Budding and grafting done during 1974 and 1975 were as follows:

Plant	Road Town Nursery		Private Holdings	
	1974	1975	1974	1975
Mangoes	201	341	171	382
Avocados	25	16	20	59
Limes	20	12	8	—
Oranges	241	39	23	18
Grapefruit	45	21	15	22

Budding and grafting done on private holdings were done free of charge in order to provide an incentive for increased fruit tree production.

Crop Production in General

Throughout 1975 farmers made renewed efforts at expanding their cultivations.

Bananas were grown in appreciable quantities in the Carrot Bay/Cane Garden Bay area. Because of poor marketing conditions much of this fruit did not reach local consumers; in addition, farmers preferred to market their produce in the United States Virgin Islands, where higher prices are obtainable.

Sugar cane was produced on smallholdings for the manufacture of rum.

Orange, grapefruit and lime production was confined mostly to home gardens and there were no citrus orchards of any appreciable size.

There continued to be considerable demand for both green and dried coconuts but the area under coconut stands remained constant.

Mangoes took the lead in fruit production and there was great local demand for this type of fruit, particularly julie mangoes.

Food crops and root crops such as tannias, yams, cassavas and sweet potatoes continued to be the main item of peasant farm output.

Short-term vegetables such as cabbages, sweet peppers, kohlrabi, tomatoes and eggplant increased considerably due to heavy rainfall and demand from hotels and restaurants.

Crop Pests

The main crop pests were various types of caterpillars, scales and mealy bugs.

Livestock Production

Livestock Production—Government Stock Farm

The Department maintained a 70-acre Livestock Farm at Paraguita Bay, Tortola for the purpose of producing breeding stock (Red Poll and Senepol cattle, Barbados Black Belly and Tortola White sheep) to farmers. The pastures are mainly pangola pastures but guinea grass and elephant grass were also produced.

Livestock Production General

The complete rehabilitation of pastures in 1975 coupled with better pasture management led to a substantial increase in the number of livestock units kept on the farm. Comparative figures for 1974 and 1975 are shown hereunder:

<i>1974</i>	<i>1975</i>
18 Cattle	45 Cattle
27 Sheep	43 Sheep
1 Donkey	1 Donkey
	17 Goats

Cattle reared were mainly Red Poll types but during 1975 two Senepol bulls were imported from St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands at a total cost of \$2,950 U.S. secured from a grant from the British Development Division in the Caribbean. It is the Government's policy to standardise the Senepol breed of cattle which are adapted to the conditions in the British Virgin Islands.

Sheep and Goats

Sheep kept continued to be the Barbados Black Belly, the Virgin Islands White and the Black Head Persian types, but emphasis has been placed on the Virgin Islands White sheep with a view to investigating their potential more fully. Several breeding ewes of sheep together with two rams have been purchased during 1975. In late 1975 many grade Anglo Nubian goats were purchased for rearing and breeding on the farm to supply breeding stock to farmers.

It is hoped to purchase two purebred Anglo Nubians from the United Kingdom in 1976.

Beef Production General

During 1975 many farmers who had given up livestock raising returned to the farm. This was partly due to Government's increased support to agricultural development, partly because of very favourable market conditions and partly because of an increased awareness among British Virgin Islanders of the need to produce local foods.

Cattle reared continued to be mixed local types, Red Poll Brahman types and a few grade Holstein animals. A few grade Holstein and Jerseys were imported from St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, by local farmers in 1975 in an attempt at milk production. Some of the Jerseys and one of the Holsteins, however, succumbed to tick borne diseases. However, beef cattle raisers on the whole preferred the Red Poll Brahman crosses which thrive well in the hilly and harsh areas of the British Virgin Islands.

Several new acres of peasant pastures were established in 1975 as the effort to expand livestock production continued. The average holding continued to be twenty acres in scattered blocks with an average stocking rate of one animal to two acres.

For the first six months of 1975 the value of imported beef and veal amounted to \$110,477 as compared with \$127,392 for the same period in 1974. In 1975 the total live weight of animals butchered on Tortola as measured by animals weighed on Government scales was 182,286 pounds, valued at \$109,372.

Cattle were sold at a price of 60–65 cents per pound depending on condition, and fresh beef retailed at prices of \$1.60–\$1.80 per pound based on proportion of meat to bone.

Sheep and Goats

As was the case with the production of beef cattle, there was also increased emphasis on the production of sheep and goats because of the very great demand for sheep and goat meat and also because of the quicker returns offered by this enterprise. The preferred sheep breeds were the Barbados Black Belly and the Virgin Islands White crosses. Sheep and goats were sold at a price of 60–70 cents per pound live weight, while the retail price of fresh local mutton was \$2.25 per pound throughout 1975.

Poultry

Six relatively large poultry farms (1,500–3,500 birds) were in operation mainly engaged in the production of eggs, along with a

few smaller farms of about 50 birds each. There is a very large demand for poultry meat and eggs in the British Virgin Islands but local farmers find difficulty in competing in terms of selling prices with imported foodstuffs. Imported eggs during the first six months of 1975 cost \$19,996 while imported poultry meat cost \$234,024. The 1974 comparative figures were \$20,891 and \$130,342.

Pigs

Pigs reared included ruminants of Berkshire, Large Black and Duroc types.

Investigations by the Livestock Adviser indicated that pig production, using imported high producing breeds, is a very viable proposition. Much of the scope for expanding this enterprise depends, however, on the provision of local abattoir facilities.

Pork imports for the first six months of 1975 amounted to \$39,592.

Animal Health and Diseases

(a) Ticks and tick borne diseases

A number of farms throughout Tortola and Jost Van Dyke became infested with cattle ticks. Sprayers were loaned to farmers and also ixocides, (Bercotox and Gamatox), were given free of charge for the control of cattle ticks. There were ten suspected cases of Anaplasmosis or Piroplasmosis with five deaths.

(b) Intestinal Parasites

Cattle remained in excellent condition, but sheep and goats had to be treated regularly for intestinal parasites. Much of the parasite infestations appeared to have been due to over-grazing. Many sheep died. Excellent results were obtained by drenching with Hexanthelin, a piperazine based solution.

(c) Rabies

The British Virgin Islands remained rabies-free throughout 1975.

(d) Screw-worms

There were no cases of screw-worm infestations during 1975. The British Virgin Islands were declared screw-worm free in 1973 after a joint campaign by the Governments of the United States Virgin Islands and the British Virgin Islands to eradicate screw-worm from the Virgin Islands was carried out successfully.

(e) *Tetanus*

Two cases of tetanus in sheep with one death were treated during the last six months of the year.

(f) *Prolapsed Uterus*

Two cases of prolapsed uterus were treated during the last six months of 1975.

(g) *Retained Placenta*

Three cases of retained placenta were treated during June–December.

Agricultural Exhibitions 1975

During 1975 agricultural shows were held at Paraquita Bay, Tortola, North Sound—Virgin Gorda and at Great Harbour—Jost Van Dyke. The shows were well supported by farmers and craftsmen alike and did indeed show most definitely a determined effort to produce locally.

Agriculture and Livestock Development Projects

During 1975 the Department continued to implement Development Aid Project No. 65 under which a grant of \$84,555 was made to the British Virgin Islands Government by the British Development Division in the Caribbean to improve the agricultural and livestock production in the British Virgin Islands by:

- (a) the purchase of a tractor and other agricultural machinery;
- (b) the purchase of livestock for improving the Government's herd and to upgrade local farmers' livestock generally;
- (c) the rehabilitation of pastures at the Government Stock Farm, Paraquita Bay;
- (d) the construction of simple earthen dams in the dry hilly areas of the territory for livestock watering;
- (e) the construction of two shallow wells at Paraquita Bay for irrigating vegetable production on a five acre plot;
- (f) the construction of buildings for livestock, produce and equipment;
- (g) the purchase of irrigation equipment and weighing scales;
- (h) the extension of electricity to new buildings, wells and irrigation areas.

With the exception of item (d), the construction of earthen dams in the hilly areas, the total project has been completed. Only one

earthen dam was constructed due to the difficulty of securing suitable sites in accessible areas, to the unavailability of crown lands and also to difficulty in securing leases for land selected as suitable sites. Two other areas, however, were earmarked for the provision of earthen dams in 1976.

Forestry, Soil and Water Conservation

The Department of Agriculture worked closely with the National Parks Trust in the production and distribution of seedlings of mahogany, and red and white cedar for the replanting of denuded lands. Hundreds of mahogany seedlings were planted at the Mount Sage National Park which serves as a tourist attraction.

The planting of fruit trees such as mango, avocados, citrus and coconuts on denuded areas, ghuts and along water courses continued to be encouraged.

The construction of narrow bench terraces continued on the steep hillsides.

Meteorological Data

Meteorological data was recorded by the Data Collection Unit, Public Works Department. The maximum recorded temperature was 91°F on 28th August, while the minimum recorded temperature was 65°F on 15th January. The days with the most hours of sunshine were 3rd-4th, 25th-26th June with 11·4 hours while the days with the least hours of sunshine were 15th-16th September, 8th-9th December with 0 hours.

Most rain fell between September and December with 14·4 inches recorded in December. Comparative figures for the past ten years for Road Town, Tortola are shown below:

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Jan.	4·34	1·36	1·98	3·61	1·98	4·96	2·10	1·23	4·88	1·65
Feb.	1·91	2·63	2·75	7·77	—	3·18	3·60	1·95	0·48	1·28
March	1·99	0·45	2·56	0·82	2·49	1·73	3·51	1·77	0·75	3·12
April	7·54	0·30	2·28	0·62	4·90	4·14	3·30	1·45	2·55	1·77
May	1·28	4·03	3·02	16·28	4·90	6·28	1·78	0·68	1·64	1·08
June	2·58	3·44	5·00	4·12	2·40	2·81	1·14	2·15	1·60	2·70
July	5·63	2·33	3·48	3·13	4·13	1·91	1·95	3·87	1·82	2·57
Aug.	4·03	2·43	2·12	7·46	2·55	5·33	2·50*	5·77	7·17	3·96
Sept.	6·59	2·60	5·87	3·53	4·45	3·25	4·27	4·68	6·52	11·73
Oct.	5·64	6·26	8·17	5·66	20·10	8·04	5·88	3·11	13·22	4·84
Nov.	5·38	7·29	7·95	11·57	9·09	5·45	1·19	2·22	9·41	6·68
Dec.	3·85	1·70	6·64	2·54	8·63	5·01	4·07	2·10	5·38	14·40
TOTAL	51·09	34·82	51·82	67·11	62·02	52·09	38·56	30·88	55·42	55·78

*Estimated

Fisheries

Because of very favourable markets for fish in the British Virgin Islands as well as in the U.S. Virgin Islands the amount of fish harvested continued to increase. Many of the "live well" or tank boats of past times gave way to freezer-equipped diesel driven boats. This was particularly so in the case of full-time fishermen. Scores of fast outboard motor boats were operated by part-time fishermen. Fishing was done mainly for reef fishes using stationary fish traps or fish pots along the coastal coral reefs. Only one fishing group explored deep-sea fishing grounds for red snapper and grouper, demanded heavily by the tourist sector. The marketing of fish continued to be disorganised with fish being sold directly from fishermen to consumers.

Sport-fishing continued to attract an increasing number of anglers whose main catch included dolphin, tuna, wahoo and marlin.

Export statistics were not available at the time of the preparation of this report.

It is thought that considerable scope exists for the expansion of this industry and in 1974 requests were made to the British Development Division in the Caribbean for advice on the development of fisheries in the British Virgin Islands.

Surveys

The Survey Department continued to concentrate on longer term surveys on out-lying islands; revision, extension and recording of position-control surveys in order to bring the whole territory eventually under a uniform standard of control surveys; and the amending of Registry Index Maps to conform with title changes recorded with the Land Registry.

An efficient land sub-division and transfer system has evolved in co-operation with the Land Registry and the Town Planner's Office, the latter having been brought into close proximity to the Survey Department.

The Land Surveyors' Board under the Chairmanship of the Senior Surveyor, has prepared an examination syllabus for the licensing of Land Surveyors and during the year two Assistant Surveyors within the Department successfully completed the course, and were awarded licences as Land Surveyors.

Land Registry

In December 1974, on completion of the Cadastral Survey and Registration Project, land titles of some 4,952 parcels of land were

turned over to the Land Registry, a section of the Registrar's Office, for safe keeping and the recording of future land transactions.

In January 1975 the Land Registry was separated from the Registrar's Office with the appointment of a Registrar of Lands. Physical separation was completed in August with the availability of alternative accommodation including a fire proof air-conditioned strong room for the storage and security of records.

As additional security Green's Office Aids was commissioned to microfilm all land registers, films of which have been completed and turned over to the Governor's Office for safe keeping.

The statistics listed will show that during the year 1975 there was increased activity over 1974 arising from a better understanding by the public of the Land Registry and its usage.

<i>Deals</i>		<i>Fees</i>	
1974	1975	1974	1975
847	1,375	\$3,339-00	\$5,009

Land Utilisation and Tenure

The total issue of Aliens Land Holding Licences decreased numerically by 50% from the previous year but increased significantly in money terms as regards the development commitment. This has been occasioned by the dual forces of inflation and the magnitude of the development envisaged on the other.

The Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act (Cap. 89) continues to be the operative law under which licences are issued to enable non-belongers to hold land in the Territory. It is, however, intended to amend the Act appropriately in order to remove anomalies, conflicts and ambiguities.

During the year 1975, 36 A.L.H. licences were issued with a total development commitment of \$2½ million. A breakdown of the licences issued for the period under review is as follows:

To hold as owners or lessees more than 3 acres	32
To hold as owners or lessees less than 2 acres	3
To hold an aggregate of 25,000 shares in landholding companies	1

Wickhams Cay Development

Progress during the year on Wickhams Cay was divided into two very clear phases. In the first six months there was a period of quiet whilst plans and contracts for surface water remedial and foul drainage works were being arranged. In the second six months considerable progress was made by the Contractor Walcon (Caribbean) Ltd. on both contracts and the scene on Wickhams Cay was one of continuous activity.

This appearance was emphasised by the start of construction on a petrol filling station, a residential housing scheme and the continuing construction of the Village Cay Marina jetties and marina facilities, the first phase of which was completed by year end.

Sales during the year were disappointing since only one sale of a site for shops and offices was achieved but it is hoped the construction of this building will be started early in the New Year. In addition work is planned on a further building for shops on a site sold freehold by the original owner of the Cay.

It is hoped that with the expansion of the yacht chartering business during the year there will be a need for additional shop and office accommodation that will give a continuous programme of building on the Cay.

Town and Country Planning

The Town and Country Planning Department continued to be administered within the portfolio of the Chief Minister. Until October the Department was supervised by Mr. Ove Anderson, Physical Planning Adviser appointed under U.N. auspices since 1969. In late December, Mr. Ivor Ditlef-Nielsen, former Deputy Head of the United Nations Eastern Caribbean Physical Planning Project, assumed control on a six-month assignment initially. One local trainee also returned to the Department on completion of a two-year physical planning course under the U.N.D.P. Physical Planning Project, St. Lucia.

During 1974 the Road Town Master Plan was adopted as a guide for use by the Land Development Control Authority in considering development proposals for Road Town. Further, a Master Plan for East End/Long Look has been completed as well as several action area reports and plans. In addition the Department continued to co-relate applications for sub-division with the Survey Department and development on Wickhams Cay with planning in the territory as a whole.

A Master Plan incorporating the various Area Plans is being prepared in order to ensure the harmonious development of the territory as a whole.

The Land Development Control Authority held monthly meetings to consider applications as shown hereunder:

Types of Applications

	DEVELOPMENT			SUB-DIVISIONS		
<i>No. of Appli- cations</i>	<i>No. Con- sidered</i>	<i>No. Approved</i>	<i>No. Deferred</i>	<i>No. Con- sidered</i>	<i>No. Approved</i>	<i>No. Deferred</i>
114	21	14	7	93	93	Nil

Distribution according to usage

<i>No. of Applications</i>	TYPES				
	<i>Residential</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Resort- Residential</i>	<i>Hotel</i>	<i>Other</i>
114	81	10	8	2	13*

(*Includes applications for rights of way, churches, public buildings and burial grounds).

Mining

As a result of an increased number of applications for oil exploration licences in territorial waters, it became necessary to secure technical expert advice from a competent source on the matter. Recommendations have now been embodied in a report entitled "A Petroleum Code for the B.V.I.", prepared by Petroleum Studies Limited, which is under consideration by Government.

The Petroleum Mining Ordinance, 1972, No. 12 of 1972, remained the operative law under which exploration licences are issued. The first draft of regulations under this Ordinance was completed towards the end of the year.

One new application was received from companies wishing to explore for ferrous metals under the Mining Ordinance, 1972, No. 11 of 1972. No licences have been issued.

Chapter 8: Social Services

EDUCATION

EDUCATION remained under the portfolio of the Chief Minister, the Hon. Willard Wheatley, M.B.E. who retained his seat during the General Elections in September 1975.

Staffing

Miss Enid Scatliffe, M.B.E. continued as Chief Education Officer assisted by Mr. A. Christopher, M.A., Education Officer (Administration) and Miss I. Turnbull responsible for Teacher Training.

*Advisory Bodies**(a) The Board of Education*

The Minister is advised by a Board of Education of which he is Chairman. The Board met twice during the year.

(b) *The B.V.I. High School Committee*

The Chief Education Officer is Chairman of this Committee. Membership includes four parents from different areas in the Territory, who are able to speak on behalf of the Community and to advise the Principal on matters affecting the work and welfare of the school.

(c) *The Primary Schools Commission*

Under the Chairmanship of the Chief Education Officer the Commission continued to deal mainly with appointments, transfers, promotion and discipline of teachers in the 14 Primary Schools, 11 of which are now Government schools.

Recurrent Costs of Education

In the 1975 recurrent estimates the sum of \$954,000, approximately 15% of the Territory's budget was approved for education. The cost per pupil at secondary level is approximately \$458 and at primary level \$226.

Health in Schools

School children continued to receive excellent dental and medical care from the Public Health staff of the Medical Department who also made regular visits to the schools. The Health Education Committee also organised a series of radio talks on various health topics.

Education Legislation

Government is giving active consideration to a draft Education Bill which seeks to provide for a unified teaching service under an independent service commission to be responsible for the appointment, control and discipline of all teachers in secondary and primary schools in the territory.

Survey of Secondary Education

Government has agreed to the terms of reference of a mixed team of local and outside educationists to mount a survey of Secondary Education in re-appraising the problems of secondary education in the British Virgin Islands as a follow-up to the Lavender Report 1969.

*Primary and Post Primary Schools**School Enrolment and Attendance—Primary and Post Primary*

Enrolment for 1975 was 1,856, 934 boys and 922 girls. The percentage of attendance remained high.

Post Primary Classes

Post Primary classes are held at three out-island schools for pupils 12–15 years who are unable to attend the B.V.I. High School. The Education Department conducts a school leaving examination and awards a certificate which is recognised locally and accepted by government and private employers as the minimum required qualification for employment purposes. Thirty pupils wrote the examination in 1975 and 17 obtained certificates.

Staffing

Teachers employed in Government and assisted schools at the end of the year numbered 50 trained and 31 untrained.

Teacher Training

At the end of the year nine teachers were pursuing courses in Teachers' Colleges in the Caribbean under the West Indies Training Scheme, two were at institutions in the United Kingdom under the Commonwealth Education Fellowship Scheme (C.E.F.) and two began courses at the College of the Virgin Islands. During the year two teachers completed one-year Commonwealth Education Fellowships in the United Kingdom and seven completed one/two year courses in several Caribbean Territories.

Five of the six teachers enrolled in the In-Service Course of the University of the West Indies completed the course successfully.

During the course of the year, regular classes and vacation courses were held for all untrained teachers and Easter workshops to deal with Special Education, Language Arts and Health Education were again held at three centres by the Education Officers.

Workshop in Early Education

From April to May the Education Officer (training) accompanied by two infant teachers attended a workshop in Early Childhood Education in Dominica sponsored by the Bernard Van Leer Foundation.

Private Schools

There are seven private schools with a total enrolment of 344. Most of these take pupils right through the primary stage while others cater to pupils of nursery or kindergarten level. Two of these—Scotts Educational Institute and the Seventh Day Adventist School—cater in addition to pupils of secondary school age. The St. Ursula's Primary School ceased operation and permission was granted for the establishment of the Pasea Park Kindergarten.

Fort Charlotte Children's Centre

The Fort Charlotte School which was established in 1972 by the local branch of the British Red Cross to provide special education for the physically and mentally handicapped continued to receive Government grants.

Secondary Education

The B.V.I. High School Staff

Of the staff of 48 (25 men, 23 women) there are 18 graduates, 12 of whom are trained teachers, and of 30 assistants 24 are trained making a total of 36 trained staff (75%).

The Administration includes three Assistant Principals, each of whom is also a Head of Department and subject teacher with about 75% teaching periods. There is need for a Deputy Principal whose full time could be given to assisting the Principal and taking care particularly of personnel matters, but it has not yet been possible to make a suitable appointment.

Number of Pupils

At the end of the year there were 830 pupils enrolled.

High School Diplomas

Ninety-six school leavers were awarded High School Diplomas at the Graduation Ceremony of the High School at the time of the Annual Speech Day.

There were three grades of certificates awarded, viz.:

- (i) Grade One: Passes in Mathematics and English with distinction, and a minimum of three other subjects.
- (ii) Grade Two: A pass in English with distinction and passes in four other subjects.
- (iii) Grade Three: Passes in any four subjects.

G.C.E. Diplomas—Cambridge

Thirty-eight students gained passes in the Cambridge "O" level examinations with the following results:

1 student gained 5 passes

1 student gained 3 passes

Remainder 1-3 passes

London G.C.E.

Seventeen passes were also received at the London G.C.E. examinations.

L.C.C. Examinations

There were 22 passes at L.C.C. level examinations.

Higher and Further Education—Evening Classes

Classes were held throughout the year mainly in Shorthand, Typing and Bookkeeping. The classes were mainly geared to the taking of G.C.E. "O" level, L.C.C. or R.S.A. examinations. The tutors were members of the B.V.I. High School Staff. The enrolment of students was as follows:

Students registered in Evening Classes 1975

<i>Subject</i>	<i>January</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>September</i>
Shorthand	19	21	21
Typewriting	43	23	41
Bookkeeping	19	7	8
English (L.C.C.)	—	—	9
Arithmetic (L.C.C.)	—	4	—
	81	55	79

*Scholarship Programme**University of the West Indies*

At the end of the year there were 20 B.V.I. students at the University of the West Indies—11 at Mona, Jamaica; 7 at Cave Hill, Barbados and 2 at St. Augustine, Trinidad. A total of \$60,000 was paid in contributions to the University.

College of the Virgin Islands

Seven students were enrolled at the College of the Virgin Islands, four in Secondary Education and the remaining three in Electrical Engineering and Business Administration with assistance from the local Scholarship Trust Loan Scheme and the Percy Chubb Loan Fund.

Industrial Arts Courses

Four students were pursuing courses at the Prescod Polytechnic, Barbados; two at C.A.S.T. in Jamaica; one each at Howard University, U.S.A., Miguel Such Vocational School, Puerto Rico; Bahamas Hotel School, Bahamas, University Western Ontario, Canada; J. Donaldson Technical Institute, Trinidad and the Golden Grove Technical College, Antigua. One student completed a course in Hotel Management and returned to the territory at the end of the year.

Library Services—General

The Library continued to provide a useful service to the reading community including school children and adults in Road Town and in out-districts. Three community libraries were opened on Anegada, Virgin Gorda and Jost Van Dyke.

Public Library Committee

In accordance with the Library Ordinance 1975, a Library Committee was set up to advise on the running of the library and extension services and to foster interest in local history.

Special Service

The Bookmobile Library continued to be the source of general reading materials to children and adults, throughout rural villages and communities on Tortola; the Children's Library Programme held during the summer vacation featured story-telling, drama, art and music appreciation. A remedial reading class in conjunction with the Education Department was also featured and courses in Spanish and French conducted. Achievement certificates were awarded to individual participants.

Aesthetic and Cultural Activities

Activities to improve the aesthetic and cultural environment included the staging of a workshop and an art show conducted by

an art instructor, during Education Week; the staging of the first Local Art Exhibition and the initiation of Literary Competitions.

Regional Activity

The Librarian attended the Association of Caribbean University and Information Libraries Conference in Curacao, the theme of which was the education of the Caribbean Librarian with emphasis on maintaining parity with standards at international level.

The Library continued its contribution to the Current Caribbean Bibliography being prepared in co-operation with Caribbean Regional Library, Puerto Rico, as well as its inter-library loan programme with the public library in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Statistics

		<i>Adult</i>		<i>Juvenile</i>		<i>Total</i>	
		1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975
<i>Registered Borrowers</i>							
Headquarters	.	1,884	1,688	1,816	1,697	3,700	3,385
Book Mobile	.	100	95	809	893	909	988
Grand Total	.	1,984	1,783	2,625	2,590	4,609	4,373*
<i>Circulation</i>							
Headquarters	.	7,915	7,940	8,948	9,478	16,863	17,418
Book Mobile	.	222	187	3,730	2,858	3,952	3,045
<i>Periodical</i>							
(Circulation)	.	789	804	168	228	957	1,032
Grand Total	.	8,926	8,931	12,846	12,564	20,815	21,495
<i>Periodicals</i>						1974	1975
No. of periodicals (subscriptions)	.	.	.	.	.	41	42
No. of periodicals (gifts)	.	.	.	.	.	25	24
Total number of periodicals received	.	.	.	.	.	66	66
<i>Newspapers</i>							
No. of newspapers (subscriptions)	.	.	.	.	.	6	9
No. of newspapers (gifts)	.	.	.	.	.	9	12
Total number	.	.	.	.	.	15	21
<i>Book Stock</i>							
No. of new books added	.	.	.	.	.	1,165	1,193
Gifts	.	.	.	.	.	184	236
No. of books discarded, 31st December	.	.	.	.	.	275	851
No. in stock, 31st December	.	.	.	.	.	21,168	18,320

*This figure denotes the "active" registered borrowers only; a vigorous editing placed those persons who had not used the library for five years plus, on the "inactive file".

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

General

As a result of the general elections held on 1st September, 1974, the Ministry was assigned to the Hon. H. Lavity Stouff, Minister of Natural Resources & Public Health in the new Government Administration.

Continued progress was made in the development of the health services of the British Virgin Islands during the year. In the earlier part of the year, a new clinic was completed and put into use on the island of Anegada.

As pointed out earlier, details of the proposed plans for the renovation and extension of Peebles Hospital have been agreed and work was well advanced on the working drawings for Phase I. Mr. T. Crooke, Hospital Planner under United Kingdom technical assistance, made a further visit to Tortola during the year in order to discuss the details of the proposed plans with Government and the Development Division.

Maintenance work was carried out on the existing hospital building, including removal of broken windows, repairs to the plumbing and electrical wiring, painting of the maternity ward as well as the installation of air-conditioning units in the X-ray Department and Out Patient Clinic.

The campaign to eradicate *Aedes Aegypti* mosquitoes from the Territory was delayed by shortage of insecticides, but was later resuscitated by supplies from P.A.H.O./W.H.O. The garbage collection campaign continued unimpeded.

The Mental Health Programme continued on a firm footing despite the failing health of the consultant psychiatrist. The part-time social worker left for Canada in June, but the Mental Health Nurse continued to work full-time on the programme. A new headquarters was obtained in the Community Development Office early in 1975 shortly after which a Mental Health Association was formed and has been providing invaluable assistance to the programme. A successful Mental Health Seminar sponsored by the Caribbean Federation was held in Tortola in November 1975.

Staff

Dr. H. P. Watson held the post of Chief Medical Officer throughout the year and there were no changes in the medical staff. Dr. R. R. Thomas was on long leave and study leave in the United Kingdom from August until December 1975. During his absence Dr. T. Reynolds was appointed by the Ministry of Overseas Development as *locum tenens*.

There was no Government Medical Officer stationed in Virgin Gorda during 1975. For most of the year a doctor was employed by the Medical Committee of Virgin Gorda and was provided with housing, transportation and the use of the Valley Clinic by Government. Representations made in 1975 to increase the medical establishment have, however, proved successful and it should be possible for Government to provide a Medical Officer for service in Virgin Gorda early in 1976.

Representations to Government for an increase in the nursing establishment for Peebles Hospital however, did not materialise and as a result, it has not been possible to implement a proper three shift system at the Hospital. During the year, three nurses completed their training in Barbados and returned to the Territory as registered nurses. Nurse Iris O'Neal retired after thirty years meritorious service and Nurse Thelma Harper returned to Trinidad after a distinguished career in the British Virgin Islands.

Mr. Aubrey George was promoted to Senior Public Health Inspector in succession to Mr. Mervyn Ward, on completion of secondment from the Government of Trinidad & Tobago. A local trainee was appointed a Public Health Inspector on satisfactory completion of a Public Health course sponsored by P.A.H.O. at the West Indies School of Public Health in Jamaica.

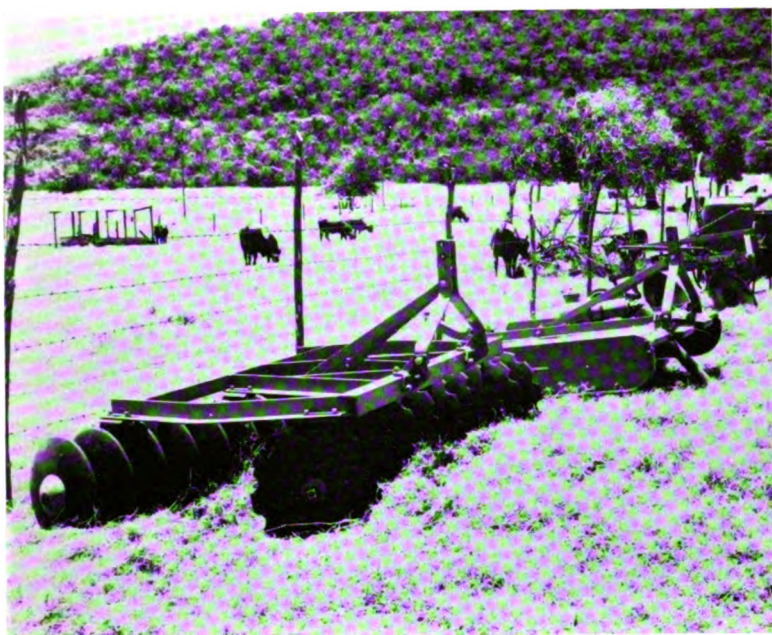
Hospital Services

Peebles Hospital maintained its basic complement of 34 beds. The bed occupancy rate increased from 68% to 71% during the year. Data on morbidity, operations and number of deaths are listed under appendices A, B and C respectively.

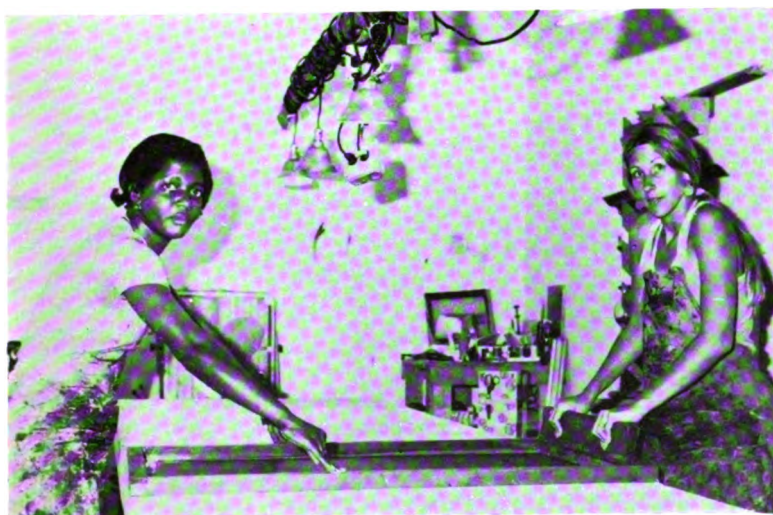
Hospital Statistics

	1974	1975
Patients admitted (including new born babies)	1,119	1,107
Average stay in days	8.0	8.2
Clinic Attendances	3,610	2,815
Casualty Department Attendances	4,383	2,461
Major Operations	240	167
Minor Operations	285	290
Deaths in Hospital	24	24
Number of babies born in Hospital	214	197
Percentage of babies born in Hospital	91%	87.5%
Laboratory tests done	10,538	10,350
Number of patients X-rayed	1,612	1,528

Clinics were maintained at Road Town Health Centre and at East End, Cappaon's Bay, Cane Garden Bay, Virgin Gorda, Jost Van Dyke and Anegada. Each Clinic has one or more nurses in attendance



Agricultural Machinery purchased from Development Aid Funds at the Government Stock Farm, Paraquita Bay, Tortola.



Silk Screening being introduced into the British Virgin Islands.



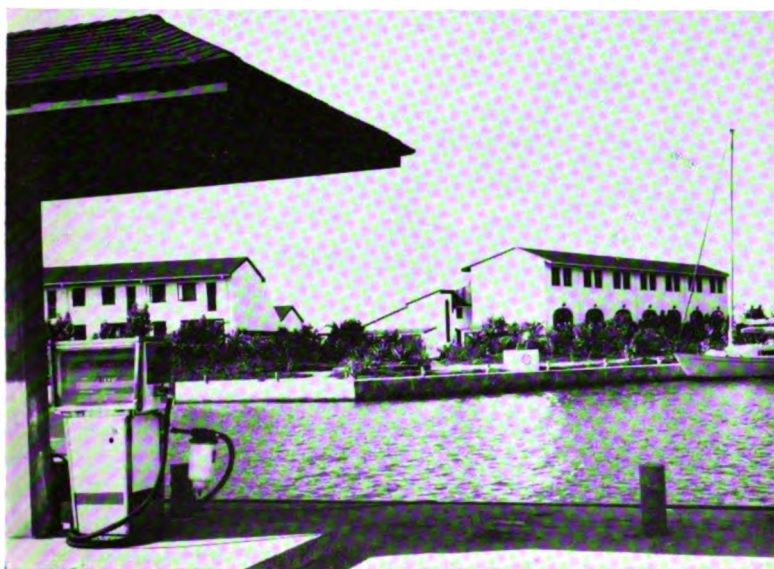
First Phase of Village Cay Marina Facility at Wickhams Cay I.



New Terminal Building, Beef Island Airport.



Handicraft Centre, Road Town—Financed originally by funds under U.N.D.P.



Prospect Reef showing section of the Condominiums and Marina.



The New Plaza Office Building and Town Square, Road Town.



*Pioneer Investors Ltd., Hydroponic Experimental Station, Johnson's Ghut,
Road Town.*

and the Medical Officers make regular visits to each one. The Road Town Public Health Clinic has become a model for the practice of Community Medicine in the Caribbean area and the University of the West Indies has asked for permission to send their students here for special training in this field.

Vital Statistics

	1974	1975
Estimated mid year population	10,000	10,000
Birth Rate (per thousand)	24.9	22.5
Death Rate (per thousand)	7.8	6.5
Total live births	249	225
Total still births	5	4
Total deaths (including one neonatal death)	78	65
Maternal deaths	1	Nil
Rate of Natural Increase (per thousand)	17.1	16.0

Population by age and sex with percentage distribution (1970 census) is shown at Appendix D.

Ante-Natal Clinic

Number of Clinics held	152
Total attendances	959
New cases under 20 weeks	86
New cases over 20 weeks	85

Post-Natal Clinic (including P.A.P. Smears)

Number of Clinics held	44
Total attendances	200

Family Planning Clinic

Number of Clinics held	38
Total attendances	466

School Health

School visits	87
Children examined	651
Treated for worms	611
Referred to the dentist	138

Diabetic Clinic

Number of Clinics held	50
Total attendances	613

Food Handlers & Immigration

Number of Clinics held	49
Attendance: Food Handlers	496
Immigration	454

Psychiatric Clinic

Number of Clinics held	45
Total attendances	408
Home visits	227
Patients sent to Antigua	1
Discharged from Antigua	1
Admitted to Peebles Hospital	51

Community Health

The Community Health Services were further strengthened and worked smoothly throughout the year. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics were held as in the previous year, but the number of sick children continued to fall. Attendance at the Family Planning Clinic increased greatly. Regular cancer screening sessions were continued. The immunisation programme was continued and intensified. A special campaign against poliomyelitis was conducted in the Autumn of 1975.

The figures for immunisation in 1975 are as follows:

Smallpox									
Primary Vaccination	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	169
Re-vaccination	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	246
Tuberculosis									
Patients tested	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	185
B.C.G. inoculation given	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	77
Poliomyelitis									
1st dose	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	277
2nd dose	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	273
3rd dose	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	209
Booster	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	361
D.P.T.									
1st dose	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	279
2nd dose	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	231
3rd dose	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	187
Booster	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	174
Tetanus toxoid									
1st dose	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	191
Booster	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	209
Typhoid (T.A.B.)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	146
Measles Inoculation	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	174

There is no special clinic for the treatment of venereal diseases in the territory at present. Some such patients come to the general clinics and others go to private doctors. Three cases of primary syphilis received attention at the hospital clinic. The sources of infection were traced and dealt with, one being found to be an illegal immigrant. It is estimated that the incidence of gonorrhoea now exceeds two hundred fresh cases per annum.

School Health

All school children are medically examined on entry to primary schools and again on entering the High School; also on leaving school.

Child Welfare

A special Child Welfare clinic is held once a week at the Road Town Health Centre. Children are also seen at the peripheral clinics at Virgin Gorda (2), East End, Cappaon's Bay, Cane Garden Bay, Jost Van Dyke and Anegada. Monthly clinics are held in out-stations at Meyers, Belle Vue, Sea Cow's Bay and West End.

Number of Clinics held	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	297
Total attendances	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,395

Blood Transfusion

The Red Cross Society has been a great help in the development of the blood donor service. A list of voluntary donors is maintained and fresh blood can nearly always be obtained when required. Blood can be stored for short periods in the laboratory.

Prison Health Service

Prisoners normally receive attention at the Hospital Clinic and visits were made to the Prison when necessary.

Dental Department

The dental services of the Territory were maintained at a high standard throughout the year. The Clinic was moved from Russell Hill to Steven's Corner in September in order to prevent a breakdown in the service.

The number of school children receiving attention was virtually unchanged:

	1973	1974	1975
Total attendances	1,341	1,578	1,665
Examinations only	377	503	552
Fillings	766	1,208	1,149
Extractions	1,497	1,843	1,824

The ratio of extractions to fillings remains at approximately 3:2.

External Aid Services

Visits to the British Virgin Islands were made by representatives of the following organisations during the year:

- U.K. Development Division
- World Health Organisation
- Pan American Health Organisation
- Caribbean Epidemiological Centre
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Children's Emergency Fund

during which valuable assistance and advice was obtained in the fields of hospital planning, mosquito eradication, sewerage and psychiatry.

Chapter 9: Legislation

DURING the year 1975 fifteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislature and forty-seven Statutory Rules and Orders were made.

The most important Ordinances were:

- (a) Wickhams Cay Development Authority Ordinance to establish the Wickhams Cay Development Authority and to give it legislative power to promote, control and administer the development of Wickhams Cay Estate;
- (b) Constitution and Elections (Amendment) Ordinance to amend the Virgin Islands Constitution and Elections Ordinance, Cap. 129;
- (c) Labour Code Ordinance to bring together in terms appropriate for the present state of the economy of the Virgin Islands, all legislation applicable to employment standards and industrial relations;
- (d) Customs Ordinance to repeal and replace the Treasury Ordinance, Cap. 186;
- (e) Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. Telephones Ordinance to provide for the establishment, maintenance, operation and extension of a telephone system by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. and to carry into effect an agreement relating to the said system.

Of the Statutory Rules and Orders the most important were:

- (a) Telecommunications (Side Band Restrictions) Rules;
- (b) Income Tax (Double Taxation Relief) (Kingdom of Sweden) Order;
- (c) Electricity Supply (Private and Commercial Vessels) Rules;
- (d) Public Library Service Regulations;
- (e) Proclamation declaring the appointed day on which preparations for compiling preliminary lists of voters for electoral districts shall commence;
- (f) Proclamation appointing the date for holding a General Election;
- (g) Colonial Air Navigation (Aerodrome Charges) Regulations;
- (h) Colonial Air Navigation (Landing Places) Notice;
- (i) Registered Land (Amendment) Rules;

- (j) External Trade (Import Restriction) (Concrete Blocks) Order;
- (k) Constitution and Elections (Voting Symbols) Regulations;
- (l) Post Office (Amendment) Regulations;
- (m) Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Regulations.

Chapter 10: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

JUSTICE is administered in the Territory by the West Indies Associated States Supreme Court comprising the Court of Appeal, the High Court of Summary Jurisdiction, the Magistrate's Court and the Juvenile Court.

COURT OF APPEAL

The Court of Appeal comprising the Chief Justice and two Justices of Appeal sits in the Territory at times selected by the Chief Justice. Usually, the Chief presides over these sittings at which appeals from the High Court of Justice, the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, the Magistrate's Court, the Juvenile Court and the Adjudication Officer, under the Land Adjudication Act, 1970, are heard and determined. In certain cases there is a further right of appeal from decisions of the Court of Appeal to the Privy Council.

During 1975, two sittings of the Court were held in the Territory. Most of the matters dealt with were appeals from decisions of the Adjudication Officer consequent upon the determination of land claims brought about by the changeover from a system of registration of titles to registration of land.

HIGH COURT

The High Court is presided over by a Puisne Judge. It has an original jurisdiction in all matters which are heard and determined by the High Court of Justice in England.

The Chief Justice selects the Judge assigned to any State to exercise the jurisdiction of the Court in relation to the Territory. Until the latter part of 1975, the Puisne Judge resident in the State of St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla exercised this function. An additional Judge was appointed in November and he was specifically assigned to the Virgin Islands and Montserrat.

General Sittings of the High Court in its Criminal and Civil jurisdiction were held during March and October and a Special sitting was held in June. In future, Special Sittings at which civil cases are heard will be held about once per month.

COURT OF SUMMARY JURISDICTION

In 1974, the jurisdiction of the Magistrate was increased and this has resulted in a complete abandonment of the Court of Summary Jurisdiction. There are now no matters pending before this Court.

STATISTICS OF COURT MATTERS

The following tables show the status of matters before the Court of Appeal, the High Court of Justice and the Court of Summary Jurisdiction in 1975.

1. Appeals

Category	No. Filed	No. Allowed	No. Dismissed	No. Withdrawn	No. Pending
A—From High Court of Justice					
(i) Civil	3	—	1	—	2
(ii) Criminal . . .	—	—	—	—	—
B—From Adjudication Officer	5	1	—	—	4
C—From Magistrate's Court					
(i) Civil	1	—	—	—	1
(ii) Criminal	2	1	—	1	—
D—From Summary Court	—	—	—	—	—

2. High Court Matters

Category	No. Filed	No. disposed of in Court	No. disposed of outside Court	No. Pending
A—Civil	102	12	25	65
B—Criminal (Indictable)	7	6	—	1

3. Summary Court Matters

No. Filed	No. disposed of in Court	No. disposed of outside Court	No. Pending
—	—	—	—

POLICE

The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force was established on 26th February, 1967 as a result of constitutional changes in the Leeward Islands.

The 1952 Police Ordinance provides for the establishment of the Force and lays down its powers and duties. These are concerned with the "prevention and detection of crime and the repression of internal disturbance". The Police are also responsible for defence of the Territory against external aggression. Additionally the Police were responsible for the following services during 1975:

The Fire Brigade

The examination, registration and licensing of motor vehicles

The licensing and registration of firearms

Special licensing and documentation.

The following figures give the establishment and strength of the Force during the years 1971-1975:

	31.12.71		31.12.72		31.12.73		31.12.74		31.12.75	
	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.	Est.	Str.
<i>Police</i>										
Chief of Police .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Asst. Supt. of Police .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Inspector of Police .	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Sergeants .	4	4	6	5	5	4	5	4	4	4
Corporals .	12	11	11	11	11	9	11	11	11	11
M/Constables .	28	25	35	32	39	39	39	39	40	39
W/Constables .	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	48	45	56	52	61	58	61	60	61	60

Police Stations are located at Road Town, East End, West End in Tortola and at the Valley, Virgin Gorda.

Command

The Force was under the command of Mr. Rex Jones throughout the year. He relinquished the duties of Keeper of the Prison in May 1975 on the separation of the Police and Prison Services.

Housing

Single barrack accommodation was available for junior ranks. There is no institutional housing provided.

Finance

Comparative expenditure figures for the years 1971-1975 are set out below:

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Personal Emoluments .	176,084	187,830	194,432	264,987	264,160
Other Charges .	42,093	42,532	54,940	53,325	64,287
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	218,177	230,362	249,372	318,312	328,447

Recruiting and Training

Section 13 of the Police Act lays down that no person shall be appointed as constable unless:

- (i) he has attained the age of 19 years but not reached 35 years except in special cases;
- (ii) his height is at least 5 feet 6 inches;
- (iii) he passes a medical examination;
- (iv) he is of good character;
- (v) he has a minimum education of standard 7.

Four male constables joined the Force during 1975. All these are of British Virgin Islands descent, following the policy of Government to encourage British Virgin Islanders to join the Force. By the end of 1975 local recruitment formed 46.6% of the total strength.

No full time Police training was available in the Territory during the year. In-service training for SPO's and constables takes the form of weekly lectures, and practical application including drill and tactical training.

Untrained recruits are sent to the Regional Police Training Centre, Barbados for a six-month initial training course. At the end of the year four recruits were undergoing this course. Other training courses attended by members of the Force, during 1975 included Refresher Course at the Regional Police Training Centre, Barbados and United Kingdom Traffic Courses.

*Traffic**Registration and Licensing of Vehicles*

At the end of 1975 a total of 1,927 motor vehicles was registered and licensed for use on the public roads of the Territory, an increase of 1.4% over the 1974 figure. Figures for 1971-1975 are as follows:

1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
955	1,291	1,627	1,900	1,927

Road Accidents

198 road accidents occurred during 1975 in which there were no fatalities. Persons injured totalled 53.

Comparative figures from 1971-1975 are as follows:

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Total accidents	150	144	101	146	198
Persons killed	2	3	1	5	—
Persons injured	37	53	25	69	53

Driving Tests

During 1975 Police remained responsible for the testing of drivers. Driving tests totalled 257 for 1975 compared with 382 for 1974.

Examination of Vehicles

A trained Police motor mechanic examines vehicles for road-worthiness prior to issuing annual motor vehicle licences.

Fire Brigade

In 1970 the Fire Brigade was amalgamated with the Police Force. Fire tenders are stationed in Road Town, and at the Valley, Virgin Gorda.

In 1975 21 fire reports were dealt with by the Fire Brigade. There was one death, but no injuries resulting from these reports. Two false calls were received during this period. Assistance was given to the Brigade by members of the public in all fires attended.

Marine Section

This comprises a 40-foot Brooke Marine Patrol Craft with a crew of four. It was used mainly for Police patrols, excise duties and to assist other Government departments throughout the year. It is an essential part of island policing.

Auxiliary Units

At the end of 1975 there were 18 Local Constables distributed throughout the Territory. Their duties are to preserve the peace and the prevention of offences against persons or property in areas where regular Police are not stationed.

*Other Police Duties**Revenue Collection*

Police remained responsible for the sale of Driving Licences, Motor Vehicle Licences and Firearm Licences. Revenue collected during 1973, 1974 and 1975 are as follows:

	1973 \$	1974 \$	1975 \$
Driving Licences	11,682	13,884·50	15,673·00
Motor Vehicle Licences . . .	42,530	47,126·43	49,107·15
Firearms Licences	649	531·70	487·74
Other Fees	1,360	3,256·00	3,878·50
	<hr/> 56,221	<hr/> 64,798·63	<hr/> 69,146·39

The duties of revenue collection curtail regular police traffic duties during the first three months of the year.

Film Censorship and Transport Commission

The Chief of Police is an ex-officio member of the Board of Film Censors appointed by the Governor under the provisions of Section 4 of the Cinematograph Ordinance Cap. 211, and is a member of the Public Transport Commission under the provisions of Section 3(1) Vehicles and Road Traffic Ordinance Cap. 198.

Control of Firearms

Permits to keep and carry firearms were issued by the Police, after approval by the Governor. At the end of 1975 the firearms registered in the Territory were as follows:

Rifles	.	.	.	.	22
Shotguns	.	.	.	.	44
Handguns	.	.	.	.	8
					—
TOTAL	.				74
					—

Crime and C.I.D.

(See Appendix E).

PRISONS

General

The British Virgin Islands Prison Service is established under the Prisons Ordinance Cap. 166. The service comes within the portfolio of the Chief Minister.

The accommodation at the Prison remained unaltered. However, the security was improved by the addition of a perimeter wire fencing and re-wiring and installation of external security lighting along with the fitting of security bars to the cells. Generally the lack of amenities, training and rehabilitation facilities continue to present problems.

Administration and Staff

In May 1975, on the separation of the Police and Prison Services, the Chief of Police relinquished the duties of Keeper of Prison and a new Keeper of Prison was appointed.

At year end the service was manned by three corporal warders

under the command of the Keeper of Prison assisted by five Police Officers who, due to an increase in the prison population, were transferred for temporary duties to fill existing vacancies. The Visiting Justices of the Prison carried out a regular schedule of visits and inspections besides visits by His Excellency the Governor, the Hon. Chief Minister and certain other officials of Government.

Health and Diet

No serious health problems were noted during the year. Government medical officers visited the prison whenever requested.

The diet is in accordance with Schedule (B) to the Prison Ordinance and is adequate. Variations of diet and provision of fresh fruit is made within the scale laid down.

Prison Statistics 1975

*Table I (Prison Population 1975)
(Types of Prisoners)*

		Totals			
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Population at 1.1.75	Convicted	7	—	—	—
	Remanded	3	—	10	—
Admissions 1975	Convicted	27	1	—	—
	Remanded	32	1	59	2
Discharges 1975	Convicted	22	1	—	—
	Remanded	28	1	50	2
Population at 31.12.75	Convicted	11	—	—	—
	Remanded	4	—	15	—

(N.B. Escapees: Convicted 1; Remanded 3).

Table II (Age Groups of convicted prisoners 1975)

	Male	Female	Total
Juveniles (under 16 years)	—	—	—
Over 16 and under 21 years	12	1	13
Over 21 and under 25 years	6	—	6
Over 25 and under 50 years	9	—	9
Over 50 years	—	—	—
TOTALS	27	1	28
	—	—	—

Table III (Sentences of convicted prisoners 1975)

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 month	2	—	2
Over 1 month and under 3 months	15	1	16
Over 3 months and under 6 months	4	—	4
Over 6 months and under 12 months	1	—	1
Over 12 months and under 18 months	1	—	1
Over 18 months	4	—	4
Life imprisonment	—	—	—
Sentence of Death	—	—	—
TOTALS	27	1	28

Table IV (Offences of convicted prisoners 1975)

	Males	Females
Larceny	15	—
Assault	2	—
Possession of dangerous drugs	3	—
Wounding	1	—
Escape from prison	2	—
Non payment of fines	2	—
Firearm Ordinance	1	—
Miscellaneous statutory offences	9	1
TOTALS	35*	1

*N.B. The difference against the number of prisoners convicted is due to the fact that some inmates were convicted on more than one offence).

Table V (Prison Service Expenditure 1971-1975)

	1971 \$	1972 \$	1973 \$	1974 \$	1975 \$
Personal Emoluments	7,978	6,828	13,993	19,924	22,116
Other Charges	4,017	3,965	6,250	10,750	8,250
TOTALS	12,995	10,793	20,243	30,674	30,366

Chapter 11: Public Utilities

ELECTRICITY

EXPANSION during the year has been slow but steady with an increase of some 12.7% in Units Generated over the previous year. The peak demand was not as high as expected rising to 2,596 KW (from 2,500

KW in 1974) thus producing an improved load factor. Revenue collection was satisfactory and there was a good continuity of supply in spite of a severe storm and flooding.

A total of 191 new consumers were connected to the system during the year bringing the total number of consumers on 31st December to 3,241. These new consumers included a large Hotel complex and a new Marina.

The following comparisons with previous years are:

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Total Units Generated	6,046,643	7,411,778	10,901,179	12,827,128	12,326,952	13,903,618
Total Units Sold	5,189,160	6,275,838	9,727,262	11,639,393	11,062,869	12,549,059
Peak Demand (KW)	1,320	2,000	2,290	2,430	2,500	2,596
Number of Consumers	1,829	2,170	2,408	2,640	3,050	3,241

Plans are underway for laying a high voltage submarine cable across North Sound, Virgin Gorda to supply electricity to a hotel complex and also for an underground high voltage cable supply to a new Condominium development on Tortola. A new Diesel Generator Unit is expected to be in operation by October 1976.

PUBLIC WORKS

Roads

Major projects completed included the re-surfacing of the Road Town/Cane Garden Bay Road, the realignment and reconstruction of part of the Blackburne Highway at Whelk Point and the surfacing of three village roads at Pleasant Valley, Baughers Bay and Greenland. A short dangerous stretch of road leading to Brewers Bay along with the Fort George/Belle Vue Road was concreted and provided with cross drainage culverts. Work has also commenced on the upgrading and improvement of the Ridge Road for which a Development Aid grant of \$169,000 has been provided. The road to the National Park at Sage Mountain was bulldozed and provided with proper drainage. Heavy rains during the latter part of the year resulted in landslides and minor damages to roads in certain areas of the Islands. However, by year end remedial work had been completed.

Buildings

Several major projects were completed during the year including the new Terminal Building at Beef Island Airport with new approach

roads, parking areas and landscaping; the old Terminal Building was converted into an airfreight shed to provide more storage space and security for the increasing amount of air cargo; the Town Square and New Plaza Building which provides accommodation for two ministers and several other government departments; the first phase of the new Road Town Primary School; a health clinic in Anegada; an extension to the Robinson O'Neal Memorial School; erection of a storage shed along with minor works to the Stockman's house at Paraquita Bay, Land Registry and erecting of security lighting and fencing at the Road Town Prison.

Development Aid funds have also been approved for the construction of the Carrot Bay Primary School early in the new year. Details of the proposed plans for extensions to and remodelling of the Peebles Hospital have been agreed and work was well advanced on the working drawings for Phase I for which tenders are to be invited early next year. Plans were also prepared for a new health clinic to be built at the Valley, Virgin Gorda from funds from a private donor.

Water Supply

The piped water supply in Road Town was reduced to one million gallons a week for a portion of the year in order to prevent deterioration in the quality of the well supply caused by lower than average rainfall. Over one million gallons of water were delivered to residents and hotels in outlying districts by water trucks.

Sewerage

The new sewerage system for Road Town/Wickhams Cay is presently under construction by Messrs. Walcon Ltd. to the design of Messrs. Richard & Dunbleton, consulting engineers. Work is in progress in building main drains and surface water sewer on Wickhams Cay I and a separate contract let for dredging the main drain serving the Huntums and Long Bush ghuts. At year end work was also underway on a sewerage treatment plant together with sewerage lines to serve part of Wickhams Cay and adjacent Road Town.

Harbours and Jetties

Repairs and renovations to both West End and Trellis Bay jetties were undertaken and a contract has been let for work on the Cane Garden Bay jetty.

Airports

The safety of aircraft and passengers has been paramount in the planning of improvements to the Beef Island Airfield. Apart from the minor maintenance works on the runway and parking apron, a large tract of land adjacent to the runway was acquired and cleared of heavy boulders in order to provide a safety zone of width 180 feet from the centreline of the runway. An underground water tank was provided adjacent to the runway for fire fighting purposes. Maintenance work on the Virgin Gorda airfield was carried out during the year by Little Dix Bay Corporation.

Development Aid funds have also been approved for the building of a control tower, installation of runway lighting and a vertical approach slope indicator system at the Beef Island Airport.

Proposed Projects

Applications for Development Aid were submitted for the following projects—surfacing of part of Brewers Bay road, improvements to Road Town by providing parking areas, pavements and drainage. Wayleave negotiations with landowners were completed in advance for each project.

Chapter 12: Communications

Aviation

THE Beef Island Airport which was opened in 1969 has a runway of 3,200 feet and is capable of receiving Avro 748 48-seat turbo-prop aircraft. A new terminal building which was completed in May of this year has greatly improved the appearance and efficiency of air passenger services at this airport as it is now possible for all essential services to be centralised.

There are small strips on Anegada and Virgin Gorda capable of accommodating light aircraft.

Scheduled and chartered air services continued to be operated by AIR B.V.I., Prinair, All Island Air, Anguilla Airways and Dorado Wings—the major airlines. Tortola International Airways, a locally based airline, commenced operation during the year and AIR B.V.I. introduced a DC3 capable of carrying 32 passengers.

Shipping

Booker Line introduced a fourth ship, "Booker-Vulcan", to its fleet which made 22 calls from Liverpool and Glasgow bringing 4,719 tons of cargo; Atlantic Lines from New York and Miami made 20 calls with 3,800 tons; the K.N.S.M. Line made 6 calls from Northern Europe with 1,075 tons; the Dutch owned Tern Line operating from Miami, Borinquen Lines of Puerto Rico and Norwegian owned Nopal Line also made a few calls, the latter two providing a roll on/roll off service. A new service was introduced by the M.V. "Enrus", RO/RO barge of 302 N.R.T. of Winward Lines of Miami, which made 2 visits with over 4,000 tons of cement.

In addition, Inter-Island Traffic was carried out by a number of smaller vessels operating between the B.V.I., U.S.V.I., Puerto Rico and the Eastern Caribbean. A reliable daily passenger launch service also exists between the B.V.I. and the U.S.V.I.

Telecommunications

The northern link of the Eastern Caribbean Microwave system with a capacity of 960 channels of which 300 are currently in use became operational. This system connects the British Virgin Islands with Antigua via a repeater located on Saba in the Northern Antilles and is to be extended to Trinidad in the Southern Caribbean.

Cable & Wireless introduced a commercial cable television service which provides high quality reception from 7 television channels as well as a number of FM stereo broadcasting stations and continued to operate the local telephone service. Telephone subscribers increased from 1,368 to 1,470 and instruments in use from 2,208 to 2,441.

Postal

The 1970 Definitive Issue of postage stamps was replaced by a new Definitive Issue depicting Caribbean Reef Fishes and two commemorative issues, "Interpex 1975" and "25th Anniversary—Restoration of Legislative Council" were released during the year. The Post Office participated in two philatelic exhibitions in the United States of America during the year—Interpex 1975, at which the Postmaster was present, and American Stamp Dealers' Association '75.

Licences were issued for the first time ever to four local business firms—Barclays Bank, Cable & Wireless (W.I.) Ltd., Little Dix Bay Hotel and Road Town Wholesale Co. to operate postage meter franking machines in the Territory.

Chapter 13: Press, Broadcasting, Film and Information Services

THE only local newspaper, "The Island Sun", with a circulation of two thousand is published weekly.

The B.V. Islander, a monthly magazine produced by the Virgin Islands Publishing Company Limited, has a circulation of six thousand and features articles on both the U.S.V. and the B.V.I.

There is a radio station (Z.B.V.I.) located at Baughers Bay, Tortola, operating at an assigned frequency of 780 kilocycles with 10,000 watts. The station has been operating since 1964, and its coverage includes the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the Eastern Caribbean.

There is one Cinema—the Carib Cinema—in Road Town which features films, British newsreels. Films on loan from the Central Office of Information were shown by the Community Development Department and were made available to voluntary organisations.

The Government issues news releases to the press, radio, informing the public of all government news of general interest. Fact sheets and other hand-outs are also available at the Tourist Office to persons desiring information on the British Virgin Islands.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

POSITION

THE Virgin Islands archipelago, in which the largest islands are the United States Islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix, contain over forty British Islands, islets and rocks. These are some 60 miles east of Puerto Rico and 140 miles north-west of St. Kitts, and straddle latitude $18^{\circ} 25' N$ and longitude $64^{\circ} 30' W$. They rest on the Greater Antilles submarine ridge and its eastern extremity and are separated from the Lesser Antilles by the deeper water of the Anegada Passage.

In distribution, the islands fall into four groups. To the south, with a west-to-south to east-north-east trend and extending overall for some 20 miles, are a series of cays terminating in the island of Virgin Gorda. This group is separated from the parallel group of Great Thatch, Tortola and Beef Island, which extends for about 15 miles, by the shallow three to four miles wide Sir Francis Drake's Channel. To the north-west of the Tortola group, and again separated by a further shallow channel, lie the Tobago Cays and Great and Little Jost Van Dyke. The Dogs form a connecting link between the first and second groups. Anegada forms a fourth unit, lying about 30 miles north of Virgin Gorda and to the north-east of Tortola. The islands are approximately 1,700 miles from New York and 3,800 miles from Britain. The total area is 59 square miles.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

With the exception of Anegada the islands are hilly. Tortola is composed of a long chain of hills which are uninterrupted by any transverse valley or pass, so that although the island is nowhere more than about three miles wide, it is impossible to cross from shore to shore without ascending nearly 1,200 feet. The highest point is Sage Mountain, 1,780 feet. Jost Van Dyke is a geological and topographical replica of Tortola. Virgin Gorda rises to a central peak 1,370 feet high throwing off a lateral ridge to form a long narrow peninsula on the eastern side. Its southern promontory is comparatively flat. All the remaining islands, except Anegada, rise precipitously from the sea. Anegada is very different, being remarkably flat, with extensive beaches at the western end.

All the islands except Anegada are formed of volcanic breccias and highly contorted metamorphosed sediments, into which diorites and pegmatites have been intruded. It is in rocks of this kind that metalliferous veins occur, for example in Virgin Gorda where molybdenum and copper deposits are found. Anegada has no such rocks and is a recently uplifted coral island consisting entirely of limestone.

The soils of the Virgin Islands have never been studied in detail. On all the islands except Anegada there are shallow friable and permeable brown loams, with frequent outcrops of bare rocks. Anegada has very little soil; limestone outcrops are extensive and there is very little surface water. Soils throughout the islands appear to be young, immature and probably the rockiest and stoniest in the world. There are no perennial streams.

CLIMATE AND VEGETATION

The islands lie within the Trade Wind belt and possess a subtropical climate. Maximum summer temperatures are usually about 87°F, and winter minimum temperatures drop to 67°F. Sea breezes sometimes temper the summer heat and usually there is a fall of up to 10°F at night. Hurricanes occur infrequently.

Rainfall records have been taken since 1901 and an average amount of 53 inches has been recorded on Tortola's lower land. It is known that much Caribbean rainfall is convectional, and it increases to a height of about 7,000 feet and then decreases. Sage Mountain is 1,780 feet and may be presumed to have about 80 inches. All the other islands appear to have less than 50 inches, probably about 35 inches.

Owing to the low rainfall and the permeability of the soils on the islands, only xerophytic types of vegetation were originally represented. These original forests have been thoroughly cut over and reduced to a much smaller and degraded bush. When fellings are made, any trees too short to be utilised, particularly for burning of charcoal, are generally left standing. It is usual to find pastures and cultivated plots dotted with trees of *Pisonia subcordata* and *Bursera simaruba*. When land is abandoned and reverts to bush an invasive thicket fills up between these standard trees. In dry, rocky places, the initial thicket is formed chiefly of croton bushes, mainly *Croton rigidus*. In moister parts the Asiatic shrub *Leucaena glauca* is the chief invader. There are clumps of stunted mangrove around the coast in many of the islands. On Sage Mountain, Tortola, there is a fragment of unusual forest type. It has no counterpart anywhere in the Lesser Antilles, nor in nearby Puerto Rico. The flora, which is

Greater Antillean, contains many species which do not grow elsewhere in Tortola. Being of scientific interest, this remnant of xerophytic rain forest has been declared a Protected Area under the Protection of Trees and Conservation of Soil and Water Ordinance. The area has been purchased and fenced and will be permanently protected as a nature reserve under the administration of the National Parks Trust.

The vegetation of the limestone island of Anegada differs from the other islands and is considerably more degraded. There is sparse growth of croton bushes, mainly *Croton discolor*. Here and there stand isolated trees of *Bursera*, *Pisonia*, *Lonchocarpus*, relics of the original forest, and between them stand huge agaves and columnar cacti.

POPULATION

Except for a small number of persons of European, American and Asian origin, the population is of African extraction. Approximately 35% of the population lives in Road Town, the capital of the Territory, and its environs. A somewhat lower percentage lives in East End/Long Look which is the only other area approaching the size and status of a township. The main out-islands, Anegada, Virgin Gorda and Jost Van Dyke, have relatively small populations and only a few families live on the smaller inhabited islands. Three of these islets, Guana Island, Peter Island and Marina Cay, are tourist resorts.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

In consequence of the severe limitations imposed by rugged topography, steep slopes, meagre soil resources and unreliable water supply, agriculture is difficult in the territory. Agricultural history shows the production of numerous crops—sugar cane, cotton, tobacco and others—but such production has always been marginal and cultivation has been abandoned at the first sign of adversity. Such cultivation as is possible is confined almost exclusively to ground provisions, some of which are sold for home consumption and the remainder exported. The supply of fresh fruit and vegetables is increasingly inadequate and the greater part of these commodities is imported.

The topography and climate are, however, fairly well suited for the cultivation of grass and for many years there has been a livestock industry.

Up to the outbreak of the Second World War this traditional

agricultural economy, smallholdings with the raising of livestock and production of fruit, vegetables and ground provisions, for subsistence and a small cash income, went on relatively unaffected by the outside world. However, the demand for labour in the United States Virgin Islands for military construction and later in the tourist industry, seriously depleted the local labour force and has led to an increasing decline in agricultural and livestock production.

It is now generally accepted that the territory can never become economically viable with small-scale agriculture and livestock raising as a base, and that attention must be turned to the exploitation of the islands' natural features for tourism. The topography, geological formation and relationship of the various islands to each other and the surrounding sea provide a setting for tourists. The protected Sir Francis Drake's Channel and Western Roads, in fact the whole area, provide a centre for boating and fishing enthusiasts. The economic outlook, therefore, is tourism as a resource base with agriculture and fishing geared to it as supporting activities. Development planning has taken place on this assumption.

Chapter 2: History

THE Virgin Islands were discovered on 17th November, 1493 by Christopher Columbus who named them Las Virgenes in honour of St. Ursula and her 11,000 virgins, according to the generally accepted account.

For nearly 100 years nothing is recorded about the Virgin Islands until 1595, when Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Hawkins passed through, the former leaving his name in Sir Francis Drake's Channel. A year later the Earl of Cumberland sailed amongst them, his chronicle describing them as "a knot of little islands, wholly uninhabited, sandy, barren, craggy".

The islands were occupied by Dutch buccaneers in 1648 who were driven out in 1666 by a band of similar English adventurers.

Not until 1672 did any Government take note of the Virgins. This was the year that Denmark claimed St. Thomas, and Colonel Stapleton, Governor of the Leeward Islands, annexed Tortola to the British Crown, demolishing the fort and forcing the inhabitants to move to St. Kitts. Eight years later, several English planters and their families settled on Virgin Gorda. Meanwhile, pirates and buccaneers had again established themselves on Tortola where their

activities were not wholly directed to leading the peaceful life of planters. More planters, however, arrived in 1700 and by 1717 a census of the population shows that there were 317 whites on Virgin Gorda and 159 on Tortola.

In 1756 the planters petitioned unsuccessfully for civil government and constitutional Courts of Justice. A second petition in 1773 was successful and Constitutional Government was established with a completely elected House of Assembly (12 members) and a partly elected, partly nominated, Legislative Council or "Board". The Legislative Assembly of the Virgin Islands met for the first time on 1st February, 1774.

Cotton, rather than sugar, seems to have been the staple crop of these early days, the crop in 1743 amounting to 1 million pounds (this includes Anguilla) against but 1,000 hogshead of sugar.

In the time of the Napoleonic wars, the Sir Francis Drake Channel became a rendezvous for British ships homeward bound and the presence of numerous merchant ships brought a good deal of trade to Tortola. With the end of these wars there commenced a period of decline and by the time of the abolition of slavery, 1st August, 1838, the trade of the islands was languishing. The landed proprietors left and the islands continued to decline economically until by 1900 the whole export and import trade was valued at only £6,199.

The British Virgin Islands surrendered their constitution in 1867. The Assembly of Council were abolished and a Legislative Council of 6 non-elected members—three ex-officio and three nominated—was substituted. In 1872, the Federation of the Leeward Islands was created and the separate colonies, including the British Virgin Islands, became Presidencies. In 1889, the official designation of President was, however, changed to Commissioner. In 1902, the Legislative Council was abolished.

A Legislative Council with elected representatives was reintroduced in 1950. This system of Government continued, with minor changes, until 1967 when, under a revised Constitution, the Ministerial System of Government was introduced into the territory for the first time. The Legislative Council consists of a Speaker, chosen from outside the Council, two ex-officio members (the Attorney General and the Financial Secretary) one Nominated Member, appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Minister and seven Elected Members returned from seven one-member electoral districts. The Executive Council comprises the Governor as Chairman, two ex-officio members (the Attorney General and the Financial Secretary), the Chief Minister appointed by the Governor as the Elected Member who appears best able to command a majority in the Legislative Council, and two other

Ministers appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister. Responsibility for defence and internal security, external affairs, the Civil Service, Finance and the Administration of the Courts rests with the Governor. However, proposals for a new Constitution are currently under consideration by Government.

Following the decline of the plantation system, the Territory became a society of small farmers and fishermen. A large number of the younger population migrated to the neighbouring United States Virgin Islands where employment opportunities were afforded to them particularly since the Second World War, as a result of the development taking place there. In view of this trend and the importance of St. Thomas as an entrepot port and a shopping centre, the economy of the islands has been, and still is, closely bound up with that of their American neighbours. The currency in both official and practical use is the United States dollar, the Territory being the only place in the sterling area where this obtains.

Following are some of the important dates in the Territory's history:

- 1493 Discovery by Christopher Columbus
- 1595 Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Hawkins passed through channel which now bears the name of the former
- 1648 Temporary settlement on Tortola by Dutch Buccaneers
- 1666 Party of English Buccaneers drove out the Dutch
- 1680 Planters from Anguilla settled on Virgin Gorda
- 1717 First Census
- 1727 First Quaker Missionary arrived at Spanish Town, Virgin Gorda
- 1741 John Pickering—first Governor
- 1744 John Coakley Lettsome born at Jost Van Dyke
- 1745 First Anglican Missionary arrived
- 1753 Peasant insurrection in Tortola
- 1756 Planters petitioned unsuccessfully for civil government and Constitutional Courts of Justice
- 1773 Constitutional Government granted
- 1774 Legislature met for the first time
- 1778 Samuel and Mary Nottingham, Quakers, freed their slaves and gave them their estate, Long Look
- 1789 First Wesleyan Missionary arrived
- 1807 Abolition of Slave Trade
- 1811 Execution of Arthur Hodge
- 1816 St. Christopher, Nevis, Anguilla and Virgin Islands made separate Colony
- 1819 Severe Hurricane
- 1838 Abolition of Slavery
- 1867 Virgin Islands surrendered constitution: Legislative Council substituted for Assembly and Courts
- 1872 Federation of Leeward Islands
- 1900 Establishment of Agricultural Experiment Station
- 1902 Abolition of Legislative Council
- 1916 Severe Hurricane

- 1924 Severe Hurricane
- 1950 Presidential Legislature reconstituted
- 1956 Defederation of Leeward Islands Colony and establishment of Colony of the Virgin Islands
- 1960 Visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal
- 1960 The office of the Governor of the Leeward Islands was abolished on 31st December, 1959 and the Administrator became the Queen's Representative
- 1966 Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
- 1967 Revised Constitution introduced on 30th March, 1967 bringing Ministerial Government into effect.
- 1971 The post of Administrator was upgraded to the rank of Governor.
- 1972 Visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon

Chapter 3: Administration

Central Government

THE Colony of the Virgin Islands came into existence on 1st July, 1956, the day appointed for the coming into force of the Leeward Islands (Miscellaneous Provisions) Order in Council, 1956 (S.I. No. 833) made under the Leeward Islands Act, 1956 (495 Eliz. 2 Chap. 23). This Act constituted the Presidencies of the Leeward Islands Colony (Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, Montserrat and the Virgin Islands) as separate colonies.

A new constitution was brought into effect by the Virgin Islands (Constitution) Order 1967, in April 1967. It provided for the first time for a Ministerial system. The Governor remains responsible for defence and internal security, external affairs, the civil service, the administration of courts and finance, and continues to have reserved legislative powers necessary in the exercise of his special responsibilities, but on other matters is normally bound to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council. The Executive Council is comprised of the Governor as Chairman, two ex-officio members (the Attorney General and Financial Secretary), the Chief Minister, appointed by the Governor as the elected member who appears best able to command a majority and two other ministers appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister. The Legislative Council consists of a Speaker chosen from outside of the Council, two ex-officio members (the Attorney General and Financial Secretary) one nominated member appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Minister and seven elected members returned from seven one-member electoral districts.

Justice was formerly administered in the Territory by the Supreme Court of the Windward and Leeward Islands, the Court of Summary Jurisdiction and the Magistrate's Court, and a Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court visited the islands twice a year. With the replacement of the Supreme Court by the West Indies Associated States Supreme Court, arrangements have been made for this Court to serve the Virgin Islands.

Local Government

There were no local Government organisations in the territory and little or no interest was shown in this subject.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

STANDARD Imperial Weights and Measures are used in the Territory. Periodical examination of weights and measures by Government Inspectors is required by law.

Chapter 5: Reading List

A FULLER bibliography including a number of older works was included in the report for 1970. The following list is selective.

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APPENDIX A

Data on Morbidity—Peebles Hospital Diagnosis of Discharges for 1975

Causes of morbidity from the "A" list of the international classification of diseases, "Eight Revision"	Age groups in years											Deaths	Remarks
	Total	Males	Females	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and up			
ALL CAUSES	888	323	565	41	78	60	229	248	143	89	24		
A4 Bacillary dysentery and amoebiasis 006	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—		
A5 Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases 009	21	8	13	7	5	2	1	5	—	1	—		
A21 Other bacterial diseases 005	5	4	1	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	—		
A25 Measles 055	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
A37 Other syphilis 095-097	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		
A38 Gonococcal infections 098	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—		
A43 Other helminthiasis 127-129	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—		
A44 All other infective and parasitic diseases 100-117	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
A46 Malignant neoplasm of oesophagus 150	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
A47 Malignant neoplasm of stomach 151	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1		
A48 Malignant neoplasm of intestine, except rectum 152-153	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
A54 Malignant neoplasm of breast 174	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1		
A57 Malignant neoplasm of prostate 185	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1		
A58 Malignant neoplasm of other and unspecified sites 186-199	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—		
A59 Leukaemia 204-207	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	patient re- admitted 3 times	
A61 Benign neoplasms of unspecified nature 210-239	9	2	7	—	—	—	1	4	3	1	—		
A62 Non-toxic goitre 240-241	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		
A64 Diabetes mellitus 250	22	7	15	—	—	—	1	3	7	11	—		
A65 Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency 260-269	4	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	2		
A67 Anaemias 285	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—		
A68 Other diseases of blood- forming organs 285-289	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—		
A69 Psychoses 290-299	34	17	17	—	—	—	14	10	10	—	—		
A70 Neuroses, personality disorders and other non- psychotic mental disorders 300-309	21	16	5	—	—	—	3	10	8	—	—		
A71 Mental retardation 310-315	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		
A72 Meningitis 320	3	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—		
A79 Other diseases of nervous system and sense organs 376-386	5	3	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	—		
341-344	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
346-358	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
A74 Epilepsy 345	7	4	3	—	—	5	1	1	—	—	—		

Causes of morbidity from the "A" list of the international classification of diseases, "Eight Revision"		Age groups in years										Deaths	Remarks
		Total	Males	Females	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and up		
A75	Inflammatory diseases of eye 360-369	4	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	transferred elsewhere.
A76	Cataract 374	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
A78	Otitis media and mastoiditis 381-383	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
A80	Active rheumatic fever 390-392	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
A81	Chronic rheumatic fever 393-398	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
A82	Hypertensive disease 400-404	14	5	9	—	—	—	—	1	7	6	1	
A83	Ischaemic heart disease 410-414	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	
A84	Other forms of heart disease 420-429	16	8	8	—	—	—	—	1	6	9	2	
A85	Cerebrovascular disease 430-438	11	2	9	—	—	—	—	1	6	4	5	
A86	Disease of arteries, arterioles and capillaries 440-448	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	
A87	Venous thrombosis and embolism 450-453	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
A88	Other diseases of circulatory system 454-458	6	3	3	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	
A89	Acute respiratory infections 460-466	24	9	15	4	12	3	2	3	—	—	—	
A90	Influenza 470-474	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
A92	Other pneumonia 481-486	26	12	14	6	12	2	—	—	2	4	4	
A93	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma 490-493	26	10	16	2	13	7	2	2	—	—	—	
A94	Hypertrophy of tonsils and adenoids 500	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
A96	Other diseases of respiratory system 501-508	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
	511, 512	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
A97	Diseases of teeth and supporting structures 520-525	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	
A98	Peptic ulcer 531-533	6	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	
A99	Gastritis and duodenitis 535	8	4	4	—	—	—	2	3	2	1	—	
A100	Appendicitis 540-543	15	5	10	—	—	5	3	4	3	—	1	
A101	Intestinal obstruction and hernia 550-553	16	10	6	—	6	4	2	1	—	3	—	
	560	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
A103	Cholelithiasis and cholecystitis 575	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
A104	Other diseases of digestive system 561-570	8	5	3	—	1	2	1	2	2	—	—	
	536	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	577	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
	575	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	
A106	Other nephritis and nephrosis 581-584	2	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	
A107	Infections of kidney 590	3	1	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	
A108	Calculus of urinary system 592	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
A109	Hyperplasia of prostate 600	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	
A110	Diseases of breast 610, 611	5	1	4	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	
A111	Other diseases of genito-urinary system 591	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
	595-599	14	6	8	—	—	1	4	3	5	1	—	
	601-607	11	—	11	—	3	2	1	1	3	1	—	
	612-620	33	—	33	—	—	—	10	22	1	—	—	
A112	Toxaemias of pregnancy and the puerperium 636-639	5	—	5	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	
A113	Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth 632	5	—	5	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	
A114	Abortion induced for legal indications 640-641	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
A115	Other and unspecified abortion 642-645	15	—	15	—	—	—	9	6	—	—	—	

Causes of morbidity from the "A" list of the international classification of diseases, "Eight Revision"	Age groups in years										Deaths	Remarks
	Total	Males	Females	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and up		
A117 Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium 631 633-635 654-662	5 22 7	— — —	5 22 7	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 14 3	4 8 3	— — 1	— — —	— — —	(N.B. Cat. No. 117 and 118 197 pats. actually delivered in hospital)
A118 Delivery without mention of complication 650	186	—	186	—	—	—	105	80	1	—	—	
A119 Infections of skin and subcutaneous tissue 680-686	20	12	8	1	3	3	2	5	3	3	—	
A120 Other diseases of skin and subcutaneous tissue 690-700	12	10	2	—	1	1	—	1	5	4	—	
A121 Arthritis and spondylitis 710-715	10	4	6	—	—	—	—	5	3	2	—	
A123 Osteomyelitis and periostitis 720	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
A125 Other diseases of musculoskeletal system and connective tissue 721-726 728-734	2 3	— 1	2 2	— —	— —	— —	— 1	1 1	— —	— 1	— —	
A127 Congenital anomalies of heart 746	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
A130 All other congenital anomalies 750-759	7	7	—	4	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	One child under 1 year re-admitted 2 times.
A134 Anoxic and hypoxic conditions not elsewhere classified 776	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
A135 Other causes of perinatal morbidity and mortality 777-779	3	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
A136 Senility without mention of psychosis 794	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	
A137 Symptoms and other ill-defined conditions 780-793	37	21	16	1	5	3	8	9	8	3	—	
AN 139 Fracture of spine and trunk N805-809	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	
AN 140 Fracture of limbs N810-820	17	13	4	—	—	4	3	3	6	1	—	
AN 141 Dislocation without fracture N830-839	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	
AN 142 Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles N840-848	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	
AN 143 Intracranial injury (excluding skull fracture) N850-854	20	9	11	—	3	3	6	2	5	1	—	
AN 144 Internal injury of chest, abdomen and pelvis N860-869	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
AN 145 Laceration and open wound N870-908	5	4	1	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	
AN 146 Superficial injury, contusion and crushing with intact skin surface N910-926	7	4	3	—	1	1	3	—	2	—	—	
AN 147 Foreign body entering through orifice N930-939	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
AN 148 Burns N940-949	12	7	5	—	2	2	3	3	2	—	—	
AN 149 Adverse effects of chemical substances N960-989	6	1	5	—	3	—	1	1	1	—	—	
AN 150 All other and unspecified effects of external causes N990-999	14	12	2	—	—	1	6	7	—	—	—	

APPENDIX B

Operations 1975

List of two-digit categories from the operation index of the international classification of diseases "Eight Revision"	Age groups in years										
	Total	Males	Females	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and up	Deaths
ALL CAUSES	167	73	94	3	9	17	25	56	41	16	—
OPHTHALMOLOGY 06-14											
Operation on orbit 09	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Operation on lens and vitreous 14	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY 16-21											
Operation on pharynx, tonsils and adenoids 21	4	2	2	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
OPERATIONS ON THYROID, PARATHYROID, THYMUS AND ADRENALS 22-23											
22-23	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
VASCULAR AND CARDIAC SURGERY 24-30											
24-30	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Operations on peripheral blood vessels 24	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
THORACIC SURGERY 32-35											
Operations on chest wall, pleura and mediastinum 32	4	2	2	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
Operations on esophagus 35	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
ABDOMINAL SURGERY 38-48											
Repair of hernia 38	15	9	6	—	6	4	—	2	—	3	—
Incision and excision of abdominal wall region 39	3	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
Other operations on region of abdomen and peritoneum 40	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Operations on appendix 41	19	3	16	—	—	6	3	6	4	—	—
Operations on stomach 46	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Incision, excision, resection and enterostomy of intestines 47	3	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
PROCTOLOGICAL SURGERY 50-52											
Operations on rectum 50	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Operations on anus 51	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
UROLOGICAL SURGERY 54-61											
Operations on kidney 54	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Operations on ureter 55	7	7	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	—	—
Operations on urinary bladder 56	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Operations on urethra 57	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Operations on prostate and seminal vesicles 58	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	—
Operations on scrotum and contents and spermatic cord 59	6	6	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	1	—
Operations on epididymis and vas deferens 60	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Operations on penis 61	3	3	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
BREAST SURGERY 65	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
GYNAECOLOGICAL SURGERY 67-72											
Operations on ovary 67	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Operations on fallopian tubes 68	13	—	13	—	—	—	1	12	—	—	—
Hysterectomy 69	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	5	3	—	—
Other operations on uterus and supporting structures 70	3	—	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
OBSTETRICAL PROCEDURES 74-78											
Antepartum obstetrical operations 74	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Cesarean section 77	9	—	9	—	—	—	6	2	1	—	—
Operations after delivery of abortion 78	11	—	11	—	—	—	4	7	—	—	—
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY 80-90											
Reduction of fracture and fracture-dislocation of ankle and wrist 83	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Reduction of fracture and fracture-dislocation (other) 84	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Amputation and disarticulation of extremities 85	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Incision and excision of joint structures 86	7	5	2	—	—	1	—	2	3	1	—
PLASTIC SURGERY 92-94											
Operations on skin and subcutaneous tissue 92	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Reparative and reconstructive surgery 93	3	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
A1-A2 Biopsy	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
A4-A5 DIAGNOSTIC ENDOSCOPY	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—

APPENDIX C

All Deaths by Cause, Age and Sex

List No.	Cause		Under 28 days	28 days to 11 months	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over	Total
A5	Gastroenteritis . . .	M	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
A48	Malignant neoplasms . . .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	9
C23	Diabetes mellitus . . .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	5
A81	Heart disease . . .	M	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	4	—
to 84		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	12
A85	Cerebrovascular disease . . .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6
A86	Other diseases of the circulatory system . . .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
C51	Diseases of the digestive system . . .	M	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
C64	Perinatal morbidity . . .	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
A150	Accidents . . .	M	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
A92	Pneumonia . . .	F	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	7
		M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
A95	Bronchitis and asthma . . .	M	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
A130	Hydrocephalus . . .	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
A82	Pulmonary embolism . . .	F	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
A79	Parkinson's disease . . .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

List No.	Cause		Under 28 days	28 days to 11 months	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over	Total
A59	Chronic myeloid leukaemia .	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
A104	Hepatic failure .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
A68	Multiple myelomatosis .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
A134	Senility .	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	Still births .	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
														64

APPENDIX D

Population by Age and Sex, with Percentage Distribution, 1970 Census

Age groups (in years)	Number			Percentage		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
TOTAL . . .	9,672	5,131	4,541	100	53·05	46·95
Under 1	277	129	148	2·86	1·33	1·53
1-4	1,150	575	575	11·89	5·94	5·94
5-9	1,261	618	643	13·04	6·39	6·65
10-14	1,100	560	540	11·37	5·79	5·58
15-19	958	498	460	9·9	5·15	4·76
20-24	1,080	667	413	11·17	6·9	4·27
25-29	781	436	345	8·07	4·51	3·57
30-34	584	312	272	6·04	3·23	2·81
35-39	421	244	177	4·35	2·52	1·83
40-44	413	229	184	4·27	2·37	1·9
45-49	368	200	168	3·81	2·07	1·74
50-54	329	156	173	3·4	1·61	1·79
55-59	267	144	123	2·76	1·49	1·27
60-64	179	103	76	1·85	1·06	0·79
65-69	182	101	81	1·88	1·04	0·84
70-74	134	65	69	1·39	0·67	0·72
75 and over . . .	188	94	94	1·94	0·97	0·97

Note: Discrepancy between the total of 9,672 in this table and that of 10,030 on page 13 due to the exclusion of a batch of census forms from the Jamaica computer processing.

APPENDIX E

CRIME AND C.I.D.

The total number of crime reports investigated during 1975 amounted to 570 of which 401 were accepted as true. This reflects a total decrease of 31·8 % over the 1974 figure (836). All categories of crime decreased with the exception of category 1—Offences Against Public Order which increased from 4 reports in 1974 to 6 in 1975. Category 5 (Offences Against The Person) fell by 11·9 % and Category 8 (Offences Against Property) by 23·5 %.

It should be noted that crime statistics were reclassified in 1973.

Comparative figures for the main categories of crime for the period 1971–1975 are set out below:

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
<i>Cat. 1 Offences against public order</i>					
True	—	—	1	4	6
Convicted	—	—	1	1	3
Acquitted	—	—	—	1	1
Withdrawn	—	—	—	2	—
Undetected	—	—	—	—	—
Pending	—	—	—	—	2
<i>Cat. 2 Offences against lawful authority</i>					
True	2	4	15	13	10
Convicted	—	—	8	11	5
Acquitted	—	—	3	1	1
Withdrawn	1	3	1	—	—
Undetected	—	—	1	—	—
Pending	1	1	—	1	4
<i>Cat. 3 Offences injurious to public in general</i>					
True	—	—	89	99	81
Convicted	—	—	61	65	37
Acquitted	—	—	7	8	11
Withdrawn	—	—	7	3	4
Undetected	—	—	2	3	—
Pending	—	—	12	20	29
<i>Cat. 4 Offences against public morality</i>					
True	7	1	3	7	4
Convicted	—	—	1	1	1
Acquitted	1	—	—	1	1
Withdrawn	—	—	—	2	1
Undetected	—	—	—	1	—
Pending	1	—	2	2	1

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Cat. 5 Offences against the person					
True	111	56	66	101	89
Convicted	48	17	40	55	42
Acquitted	13	—	10	20	7
Withdrawn	12	5	4	4	14
Undetected	6	19	6	2	—
Pending	11	7	6	20	26

Cat. 6 Offences against property					
True	182	258	345	276	211
Convicted	16	16	45	32	41
Acquitted	2	8	6	9	5
Withdrawn	3	11	5	3	3
Undetected	103	168	278	185	68
Pending	3	8	11	47	94*

*(Included cases under investigation and awaiting trial).

Cat. 7 Other criminal offences					
True	—	—	—	—	—
Convicted	—	—	—	—	—
Acquitted	—	—	—	—	—
Withdrawn	—	—	—	—	—
Undetected	—	—	—	—	—
Pending	—	—	—	—	—

Local Laws					
True	647	469	264	352	327
Convicted	325	314	194	222	206
Acquitted	45	51	19	20	24
Withdrawn	53	24	10	13	29
Undetected	63	23	7	15	3
Pending	161	57	34	82	65

Comparative figures of true reports of offences against Local Laws for the period 1971 to 1975 are as follows:

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Vehicles and Road Traffic	474	346	236	318	292
Firearms	—	—	6	6	2
Dangerous Drugs	—	—	12	16	20
Treasury	—	—	6	8	8
Protection of Animals	—	—	1	1	1
Immigration and Passports	—	—	4	2	4
Unspecified	173	123	—	—	—
	647	469	265	351	327

Juvenile Delinquency

Eleven juveniles were convicted for offences during 1975 compared with one conviction in 1974. Offences concerned were:

Larceny of food stuff	.	9
Larceny of money	.	2
		<hr/>
TOTAL	.	11
		<hr/>

No established probation service or approved school exists in the Territory. The Social Welfare Department assists whenever possible.

Criminal Investigation

The incidence of breaking offences decreased from 91 in 1974 to 75 in 1975—a 17·5% reduction and there was an overall decrease of 26·9% in the following offences compared to 1974.

	<i>True Reports</i>	<i>Convictions</i>
Simple larceny	109	25
Robbery	—	—
Breakings	75	5
Frauds	—	—
Receiving and unlawful possession	6	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	190	32
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Although there were 25 convictions under simple larceny during the year a further 10 cases were pending trial. Additionally there were 16 breaking cases pending trial at the year end.

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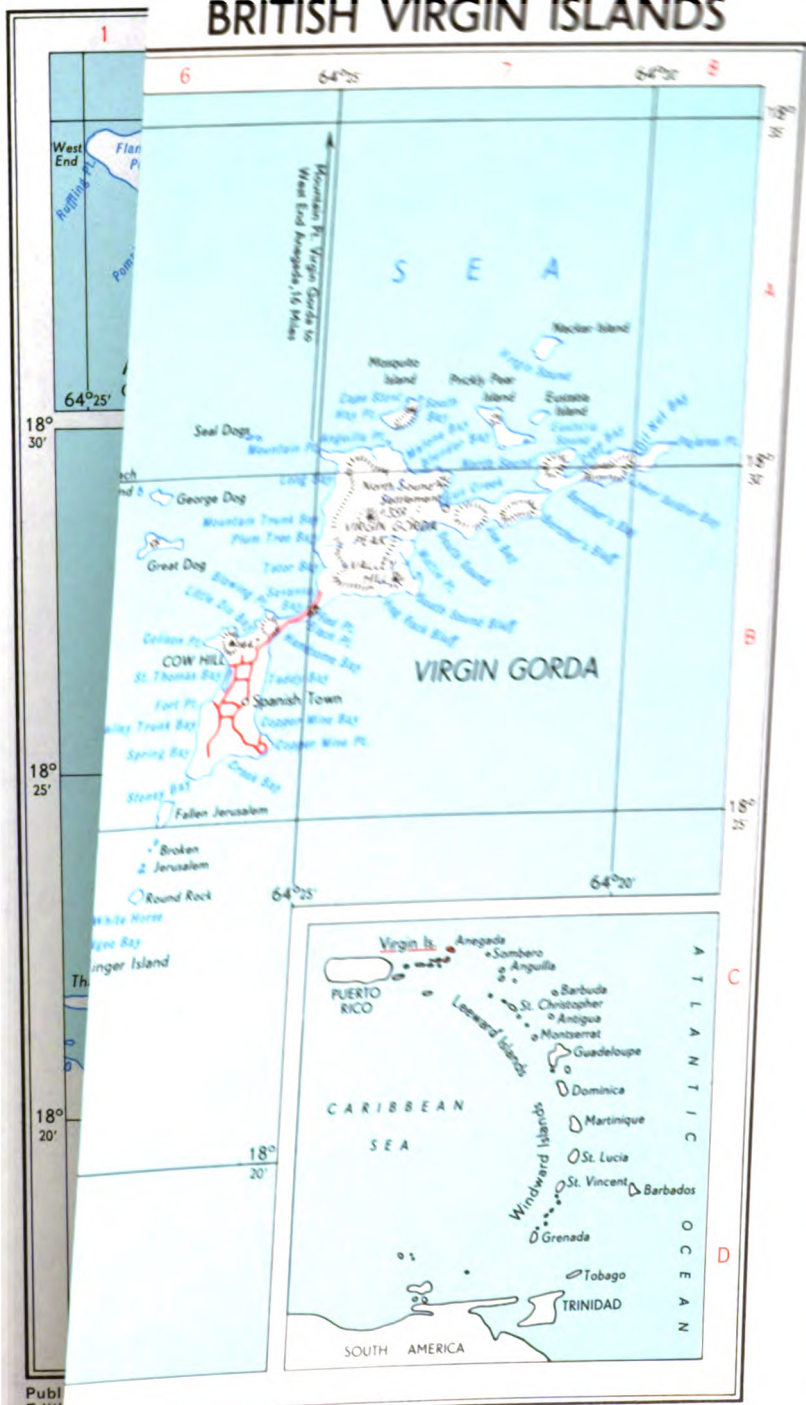
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